PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT,

1915-16.

1906-07 to 1910-11

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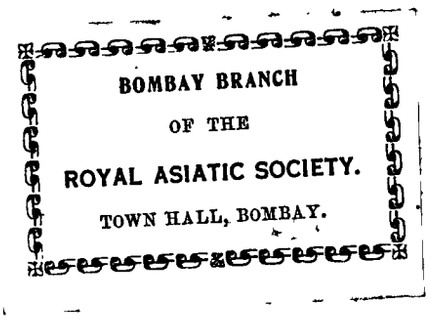

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1906-1907. to 1910-1911

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

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1906-1907.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1906-07.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(The "year" throughout this report is not invariably the financial year ending 31st March 1907. At the heading of each chapter, with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1907, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1906, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1906.

The Administration Report for 1901-02 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.)

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel of the Administration.

1. Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I., assumed charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor on the 6th March 1907, relieving Sir Charles Rivaz, who retired from the service.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

Political.

2. The most important event of the year was the death at sea of Nawab Muhammad Bahawal Khan of Baháwalpur from the effects of pneumonia, contracted on the journey back from Mecca. His Highness was 22 years of age and left a son Sadiq Muhammad Khan, a child of two years of age, who has been recognised as his successor. The States of Patiála, Jínd, Nábha and Máler Kotla were honoured by visits from His Excellency the Viceroy and His

Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. The minor Chief of Patiála, Maharaja Bhupendra Singh, is making satisfactory progress with his studies at the Aitchison College. The young Raja of Faridkot aged 11 has also joined the Aitchison College, and the Council appointed to manage the State has worked satisfactorily. With the exception of the death of the Nawab of Baháwalpur, the year has been devoid of any events of special interest. The administration has proceeded smoothly except in the case of the State of Suket, where there has been friction between the Raja and his officials. The harvests have been good, and but for the ravages of plague the people have been prosperous and contented. The Dera Gházi Khan frontier has maintained a condition of complete tranquility.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Land revenue.

3. The autumn crop of 1905 was an extraordinarily poor one, being very much worse than that of the famine year of 1901. On the Chenab Colony the cotton crop was a complete ilure, and in the Delhi division, which depends mainly on the autumn harvest, large suspensions had to be given. Fortunately, this abnormally bad crop was followed by the finest spring harvest on record, and had been preceded by one almost as good. In consequence, the combined result of two harvests, equally abnormal in opposite extremes, was an almost normal outturn of 101 per cent. Of the total fixed demand 89 per cent. was collected, but on the other hand the demand on account of fluctuating land revenue rose by nearly 5 lakhs, and this in spite of the fact that nearly 30 lakhs of rupees were remitted on canal-irrigated lands because of the failure of the cotton crop. Of the revenue suspended at the time of the autumn failure, an unusual amount was collected in the spring, and in the Hissar district alone it was found possible to collect 250 per cent. of the normal demand. The balances outstanding have risen from 8·6 to 22·37 lakhs, but the recoverable balance, not under suspension, has fallen considerably. The receipts classified as "miscellaneous land revenue" have fallen, and will continue to do so for some time to come as the colonies become more developed and it is no longer necessary to sell town sites.

urveys.

4. Survey work was carried on in Multán, Muzaffargarh and Dera Gházi Khan, and the irrigated areas of the two former districts were nearly completed. The traverses required for the compilation of all the boundaries on the 6 rivers of the Punjab were finished, and 4,600 miles were also traversed in Jhang, Lyallpur, Montgomery, Shahpur and the Baháwalpur State. The most important work accomplished was the final determination of the boundaries on the Sutlej between the Baháwalpur State and the Montgomery and Multán districts respectively, and this should put an end to all possibility of friction in the future. Small transfers of estates were effected between various districts, and the Government waste on the Sakesar hill was divided between Shahpur, Attock and Miánwáli. Considerable progress was made with the Himalayan maps, and of the 430 large maps of the riverain tract 200 have now been completed.

Settlements.

5. The settlement work of the year has been devoid of any unusual features. The settlement of Jhang has been completed, the work of re-assessment in Sangarh has been concluded, and the new assessments have been sanctioned in Ráwalpindi and parts of Miánwáli and Háfizabad. Progress has been

made in the settlements of Karnál, Rohtak, and Delhi, but experience has not borne out the anticipations of Government that settlement operations can ordinarily be finished in four years. The case regarding the enhancement of occupiers' rates on the Bari Doab Canal was disposed of, and revised rates were notified which were expected to yield an increase of Rs. 5,62,292 per annum.

Land records.

6. Two administrative changes of great importance have been carried out in the separation of the Department of Land Records from that of Agriculture, and the abolition of the patwar cess. The combined charge had in view of the growing importance of agricultural and veterinary questions become too large for a single officer, and the separation will certainly work in the direction of efficiency. The abolition of the patwar cess was an appreciable relief to the agricultural community and will necessitate only a few small modifications in the centralised scheme of accounts recently introduced. Apart from these two important changes nothing happened worthy of note. The amount of work disposed of was larger than last year and appears to be still growing.

Colonies.

7. The colonies in which operations were carried on were the same as last year. On the Chenab the area available has been practically exhausted until some further extensions of the canal are completed and the remainder of the Crown waste is commanded. The chief work which now remains to be done is the opening up of the area already colonised, the improvement of communications, the increase of post offices, and the building of schools. On the 14th May 1906 the Jech Doab Railway opened for traffic. The Shahdara-Sángla line was partly opened at the end of the year and has since been completed. The post office department has made steady progress, and there are now 211 post offices in this colony which transacted business in money orders alone worth 16 lakhs of rupees. In the Chunián Colony practically all the land available has been allotted and in Jhang nearly one-half still remains. On the Jhelum Colony steady progress has been made. There are still nominally about one lakh of acres to be allotted, but the land is of poor quality, and, unless the experiments in temporary cultivation prove more satisfactory in future years, this area will have to be abandoned. All grantees on horse-breeding conditions have now received land, which will amply repay them for the up-keep of a mare, and a satisfactory system of replacing wastage by means of fresh stock purchased with Government advances has been de vised. It will probably be necessary to find land for the disappointed grantees, for whom good enough land was not available, on the extensions to be made in the Chenab Colony. The most satisfactory features of the year in both the great colonies are the definite and steady progress in horse-breeding on the Jhelum, and in mule-breeding on the Chenab, and the marked improvement of the Janglis or aboriginal nomads of the old waste. These men are gradually settling down to agriculture and have been given land both for temporary and permanent cultivation.

Wards estates.

8. A large estate of the value of over 44 lakhs of rupees was taken under management, although the status of the family was commercial rather than agricultural. This action was necessitated by the size and complexity of the property, the long minority before the heir, and the quarrels of the family. Progress was made in paying off the debts of other estates.

LAND ALIENATION ACT.

Land Alienation Act.

9. For the first time since the passing of the Act a part of the province has been exposed to famine conditions, and it is satisfactory to note that the contraction of credit which resulted was not of such a nature as unduly to embarrass the cultivator, though it apparently led to an increase in the amounts advanced by Government. The statutory agriculturist, who was often in the favourable position of being a money-lender by birth and occupation and an agriculturist in virtue of having owned land for some generations, was abolished by legislation.

PROTECTION.

Legislation.

10. A list is given in the body of the report of the Acts passed during the year. Of these the most important was that amending the Punjab Land Alienation Act, and abolishing the statutory agriculturist.

Police.

11. The criminal statistics for the year reflect to a considerable extent the economic conditions prevailing in the province during the period. The year 1906, following on a period of scarcity and high prices, combined with a very severe epidemic of plague, opened under very unfavourable conditions, and it was not until timely rains had altered the agricultural outlook and had lowered prices that the criminal record displayed a change for the better. The increase in offences against property during the earlier part of the year was counterbalanced by improved conditions later, and the figures as a whole exhibit only a very slight increase over those of 1905. In the north and south-west of the province, which were only very slightly affected by agricultural stress or plague, theft and kindred offences have decreased. In the case of other forms of crime it is satisfactory to notice that in the most serious class of offences against the person a substantial decrease occurred. The number of cases of murder and culpable homicide fell, and dakaities which reached a very high level in 1900 have now decreased to less than one-third of that number. As to the working of the Police, statistics afford sufficient indications that the improvement noticed in previous reports has been well maintained, the percentages being much the same as in the two preceding years except in magistrates' "true cases", where the percentage of convictions shows a marked increase. Viewed from the standpoint of improved morale and a generally higher standard of duty, there is evidence of gradual progress, and it is clear that, with the improved pay and prospects introduced by the reorganization scheme, a better and more willing spirit animates all ranks, while discipline has been well maintained. The work of carrying out the sanctioned changes in the constitution of the force continues, and during the year a third range was formed, a Deputy Inspector-General with an office staff appointed, and two grades of constables were created on Rs. 10 and Rs. 11 per mensem. Six Deputy Superintendents were added to the cadre and the Sub-Inspectors were regraded on the new scale.

Criminal justice.

12. There was an enormous increase in the number of offences reported, but if the high percentages of failure of these charges for want of prosecution, and the very low ratio of convictions, be taken into consideration, it is clear that, putting aside a temporary rise in the Delhi division at the beginning of

the year on account of scarcity, the increase shown is out of all proportion to the state of crime and is due to the litigious nature of the Punjab peasant, and to the inveterate habit of using the cheaper agency of the criminal courts in what are really civil disputes. The latter applies more especially in matrimonial cases, which are still increasing. It would appear that in certain districts of the province this is not merely due to heavy female mortality from plague, and the enhanced value of the women who survive, but that deeper causes are at work, and that a gradual change in social conditions is resulting in the growing independence of women from parental control in their marital relations.

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Prisons.

13. There was a considerable decrease in the number of prisoners admitted into the jails, and, though there has been a slight increase in the daily average population, this is explained by the large number of transfers from other provinces, and also, to some extent, by the temporary suspension of the transportation of term convicts. First offenders sentenced to short periods of imprisonment of six months or less still represent more than one-half of the total number admitted, and the large influx of this class of prisoners renders their effective segregation very difficult. Nine escapes occurred during the year as against only one last year. Six of these, however, were from extra-mural gangs, and in only one was there direct suspicion of connivance on the part of the warder in charge. Disclipine was well maintained, and corporal punishments have been reduced to a very low figure. The health of the prisoners was excellent, and the death-rate fell below even the extremely low figure previously recorded, and this in a year when the total number and the daily average of the sick increased appreciably. Six cases of plague occurred with two deaths, but the disease was stamped out at once and did not spread.

Civil justice.

14. The decline in the volume of civil litigation which has been a prominent feature of the reports of several years past has experienced a marked check. The number of suits instituted represents an increase of 7 per cent. over the figures for 1905, and, although three districts, in which special local conditions stimulated litigation, account for a third of the increase, the balance is fairly well distributed over the province. It is clear that the check furnished by the extension of the limitation period in Act I of 1904 is disappearing, and the first batch of suits held up in consequence of the passing of that Act has now been filed. In the course of the next two or three years it will be possible to gauge with greater accuracy what the precise effect of the Act has been on litigation. The figures furnish marked indications of improvement in the status and well-being of the agriculturist, for, while suits for redemption of mortgage increased, notices and suits for sale and of foreclosure show a substantial decrease. The state of business in the Chief Court exhibits a very marked improvement over preceding years owing to the temporary strengthening of the Court by four additional Judges, and there is reason to hope that the continuance of one of these Judges for a further period of six months will place the file of the Court on a satisfactory basis. There is, however, great congestion in the Divisional Courts.

Registration.

15. There was a very marked increase in the number of documents compulsorily presented for registration. Although special circumstances helped locally to bring this about, the general cause appears to have been the comparative immunity from plague during the first half of the year and the consequent completion of transfers held in abeyance. A new system for the remuneration of Sub-Registrars by making them public servants with a fixed salary and a percentage of the fees has been introduced, and promises to be successful.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

District boards and municipalities.

16. There is nothing to note in the working of district boards during the year. The Gurgaon district board has been reconstituted as a wholly nominated body. In municipalities the chief feature of interest is the first year's working of new Account Code and the system of refunds of octroi without enquiry introduced from the Upper Provinces. The diversity of the figures makes it difficult to form any safe opinion regarding the financial effects of the new system, but there is no doubt that there has been a general improvement in the working of the staff and in the methods of collection. The percentage of the cost to the income resulting from this tax is so high in many of the smaller municipalities as to show that it is unsuited to them, and that a substitute will have to be found.

AGRICULTURE, WEATHER AND CROPS.

Operations of the Department of Agriculture.

17. The year has been chiefly spent in the general organization of the Agricultural Department formed last year. An agricultural chemist and an expert in botany have been appointed. The subordinate staff is not yet up to full strength, and several stipendiary candidates are receiving education in Cawnpore. The conditions of the year were unfavourable to experiments, but there was a considerable advance in the amount of selected grain distributed. The chief problem at present exercising the Director is the selection of a suitable thresher and winnower and a good reaping machine. These are urgently required on account of the terrible scarcity of labour due to the ravages of plague. A light reaping machine, which is extremely popular, has been introduced, and it is intended to import a large number for private purchasers next year. A satisfactory thresher and winnower has yet to be discovered.

The Veterinary Department.

18. A marked improvement is reported in the educational qualifications of students admitted to the Veterinary College, and the graduates, who qualified, succeeded at once in obtaining employment. The year was an unhealthy one among cattle, and epidemics of rinderpest, hemorrhagic septicæmia and blackquarter occurred in several districts. A vigorous campaign of preventive inoculation was carried on and was attended by a considerable measure of success, the number of animals treated by the department increasing by 40 per cent.

Agricultural pests.

19. Measures were taken to prevent a recurrence of the damage done in the previous year to the cotton crop by the boll-worm. Partly owing to these precautions and partly to a satisfactory fall of rain in September, the ravages of the pest were not serious. At the beginning of the cold

weather various districts were threatened with a serious visitation of locusts. Fortunately, the heavy winter rains and low temperatures retarded the hatching of the young insects, and little damage was done.

Loans to agriculturists and co-operative credit societies.

20. The conditions of scarcity prevailing in the Delhi division during part of the year necessitated the giving of large advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, and throughout the province the amount distributed was more than 50 per cent. higher than in the previous abnormal year, which followed the Kángra earthquake. At the same time great progress was made with the formation of co-operative credit societies, the second means of financing the agriculturist and supplementing the village money-lender. There can be no doubt that the bulk of these societies have a real life, and the type now selected as the best and that, on which more than half of them are working, appears to be suited to the needs of the province.

Prices.

21. Prices generally ruled easier, but were still somewhat high. In the northernmost districts only did wheat reach the normal level. A fall in sugar rates indicates a return to the usual conditions of cultivation and a further recovery from the injury inflicted on cane by the frost of 1905. The price of millet fell almost everywhere owing to extensive sowings; that of cotton was easier, and reflected the improvement in the crop due to its partial immunity from boll-worm attacks.

Weather and crops.

22. The season and crop report deals with the autumn harvest of 1906 and the spring harvest of 1907. The monsoon current reached the eastern part of the province in the third week of June, but except in Simla and the hill districts the fall was insufficient until September. Ample rain then fell. The harvest was in most respects above the normal. The outturn of millet was good. Rice and sugarcane both did well, and cotton very much better than in the previous year. The excellent September rains gave promise of an excellent spring crop, which was not fulfilled, as the excessive winter rains did considerable damage, and the result was slightly below the normal.

FORESTS.

Management.

23. Little damage was caused by fire, and of this the favourable season is the cause, rather than improved protective arrangements. An increase in forest offences is due mainly to the extension of cultivation that accompanies the increasing prosperity of the country. The protection of forests from damage by agricultural animals is becoming an extremely difficult matter. Flocks of sheep and goats have largely increased, and it will be no simple matter to strike a fair balance between the immediate interests of the people on the one hand and those of forest conservancy on the other.

Exploitation and financial results.

24. The total timber outturn fell nominally by 52 per cent., but defective registration in Chamba is partly to blame. Increased importation of Australian and other woods for sleepers has affected the demand as has also the supersession of wood fuel by coal. As a natural result of the diminution in the outturn the income has fallen.

MINES AND QUARRIES.

Coal.

25. There was an increase in the outturn of coal, the greater part coming from the Dandot Colliery, which is worked by the North-Western Railway. The province is unable to supply more than a small fraction of the coal required, and has to depend on the Bengal fields.

MANUFACTURES.

Factories.

26. Although the number of cotton-ginning factories increased slightly, no less than forty-eight remained closed, the reason being the scarcity of raw material due to the failure of the crop in two successive years. The health of the operatives was good and the sanitary conditions satisfactory. The Factories Labour Committee, which visited Delhi as well as the other large manufacturing centres in India, has submitted its report, and has made definite suggestions for improvements in inspections and for the bettering of the lot and surroundings of the mill hands. In a monograph on carpet-weaving will be found an interesting description of this industry as it exists in the Punjab.

TRADE.

Trade with other provinces and States in India.

27. The figures reflect the agricultural condition of the year, the excellent crops of 1906 being followed by record exports, the greater portions of which were as usual 'grain and pulse.' There is an increase of 29 lakhs in the value of the imports, and this in spite of the slackening of the abnormal imports of sugar, which fell by 75 lakhs as compared with the previous year. Distributed as it is over piece-goods, apparel, gunny bags and kerosine oil, this great increase is a clear proof of improved purchasing power and is a most healthy sign of the general prosperity of the people.

Trans-frontier trade.

28. There is a general increase of 10 per cent. in the volume of trans-frontier trade as compared with three years ago. The registration system is being overhauled, and until it is in a more satisfactory condition an examination of the detailed heads does not supply any very satisfactory information. Trade with Kashmir is growing steadily.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

General.

29. During the first half of the year great activity was shown in the promotion of companies. It is to be hoped that this development is not premature, and that the speculative nature of some of these concerns, the system of financing one company or more with the funds of another, and the maintenance of inadequate reserves, will not lead to disaster and to the checking of the movement while still in its infancy.

PUBLIC WORKS.

General.

30. The most important work in progress was the new office for the Accountant-General in Lahore. The Public Works Secretariat offices were built up to roof level. The District Jail at Campbellpur was completed, and several new police stations were put in hand. A five year programme for the construction of new feeder roads to railways was drawn up, but the mainte-

nance of all roads is now absorbing a much larger share of the finances available. Wages have risen 30 to 40 per cent., and this naturally reduces the sum which can be devoted to construction.

RAILWAYS.

Construction and traffic.

31. Two hundred and eight miles of railway were opened during the year. Of these one-half were on the North-Western Railway proper, and the remainder were on small lines which are worked by the same administration on the contract system. The Simla-Kalka Railway was made over to the North-Western Railway on the 1st January 1907. Owing to innumerable landslips caused by the incessant rain in September the line was washed away and subsided in many places, and traffic was suspended for 36 days. The returns of the year were most satisfactory, there being an increase of $3\frac{1}{2}$ millions in the number of passengers carried and also a large advance in the goods traffic.

IRRIGATION.

General progress.

32. Work was in progress on the new projects to be known as the Upper Jhelum and the Upper Chenab Canals, and sixty-five lakhs were expended. The heavy rainfall at the end of August retarded the work, and the continuous rain during the cold weather, and the severe outbreak of plague demoralised the labour supply generally. The construction of these great works is now a very different matter to what it was ten or even six years ago, when the existing canals which take off these same rivers were being built. Labour, which in those days was plentiful and cheap, is now not only infinitely more costly, but at times almost unprocurable. The working of the canals in operation was materially assisted by good rainfall and the net profit was nearly 10 per cent. Owing to ample floods the inundation canals worked splendidly.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Revenue and expenditure of the Punjab.

33. The revenue raised in the province was 50 lakhs more than last year. The marked increase under land revenue is due to the magnificent spring harvest of 1906 and the fact that in the financial year as opposed to the revenue year the figures show the autumn harvest following, and not that preceding, the spring harvest included in the accounts. Receipts under opium and excise continue to show a considerable increase. In charas, and imported and coloured spirits, the rise is in part to be accounted for by enhancements of duty, but under opium and country spirit it represents a real increase in consumption, or rather in consumption of articles licitly manufactured. The experiment of combating illicit distillation by selling liquor at a cheaper rate in the four Sikh districts, where it is specially prevalent, has been to show that the evil is more widespread than was imagined, and it is believed that the apparent growth in consumption merely represents the replacement of so much illicit liquor by that which has paid duty. In expenditure the main items in the increase of over 24 lakhs of rupees are those shown under Police, Public Works and Irrigation.

Local funds and municipal revenues.

34. The special annual grants which are now given to the various districts out of the sum contributed from imperial revenues, and the policy of regulating the liability of district boards for local plague expenditure with reference to their financial position, have materially improved the finances of those bodies. The year has been a prosperous one, the income throughout the province showing a marked increase more especially under the heads 'Provincial Rates,' 'Civil Works,' and 'Contributions.' 'Provincial Rates' represent the result of good harvests followed by the payment of current demands and of suspended land revenue, while contributions represent the annual grant. The expenditure grew proportionately, the surplus being devoted to civil works, education, and medical relief. The municipal income rose by over 4 lakhs of rupees, and mainly on account of enhanced grants and contributions for general and special purposes. The new system of octroi has necessitated a large increase in the cost of establishment.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births and deaths.

35. The birth-rate shows a small decrease, which is probably to be attributed to the scarcity and the high prices of food-grains in certain districts in the preceding autumn. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the area in which these conditions prevailed is that in which the defect is most noticeable. The death-rate shows a substantial decrease of 10 per cent., which is due entirely to the marked lull in plague mortality. For the first time since 1901 the birth-rate exceeds the death-rate, and this province, which for four years registered the highest death-rate in India, shows a decline to the third place.

Plague.

36. If only for a time, the virulence of the plague epidemic abated, and the number of deaths recorded was less than one-third of that of the previous year. The climatic conditions of the autumn of 1905 were adverse to the recrudescence and spread of the disease, and high hopes were entertained that the climax had been passed. Unfortunately since the close of the year those hopes have been completely falsified, and there has been a visitation of unparalleled severity. Rat destruction has been carried out on a large scale, and appears to have been, to a modified extent, successful. It is a measure which is fairly well accepted and it may be hoped that as time goes on the people may learn to carry it out themselves. Evacuation, desiccation, and inoculation form the other main palliatives, but lack of thoroughness in carrying them out seriously affects the results.

Vaccination.

37. A marked fall in the number of vaccinations performed is chiefly due to the prevalence of malaria in the early part of the season. Though the percentage of success in primary vaccinations has improved, the results in revaccination were not quite so good.

SANITATION.

General progress.

38. Various drainage schemes in large cities were completed, and others were taken in hand. The Ludhiána water-works, to the cost of which the public of that town have contributed most generously, were commenced. It is disappointing to find that in villages no interest is yet taken in sanitation, and that the rewards offered for improvements could not be distributed.

MEDICAL RELIEF.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

39. There was an increase in the number of hospitals and dispensaries, and both out-patients and in-patients attended in larger numbers than ever before, malaria being the complaint for which most of the former were treated. The return of operations was even higher than in the preceding record year. The Pasteur Institute at Kasauli was attended by 50 per cent. more patients, and the popularity of this institution is becoming more widespread as the results of the work become better known. More especially is this the case among the native population, the number of patients being more than double what it was two years ago,—an increase which may be expected to continue indefinitely in the future.

EDUCATION.

General progress.

40. The report on education is a quinquennial one, and the statistics and progress made have been reviewed in the body of the report as compared with the state of things five years ago. There has been a further increase in expenditure during the present year, the chief advance being again in primary education. A scheme of studies has been prepared for schools in rural districts as distinguished from urban schools, and these new rural schools will, it is hoped, provide a suitable education for the young agriculturist. Persian has been eliminated, instruction in native accounts has been introduced, and prominence is given to Geography, Object Lessons, and Mensuration. The pupils will be able to go direct from the rural Primary School to the Vernacular Secondary School with the privilege of there taking up Agriculture instead of Persian. The Arts Colleges show a larger number of pupils, and, though the results of the B. A. Examination are not very satisfactory, there was an improvement in the examination for the M. A. degree. The Law College shows a still further decline in the number of students, and it is only natural that, the legal profession being so overstocked and competition for a living so acute, fewer should take the trouble to qualify. The Medical College shows a decrease in numbers, but this is only nominal, as the teaching of the preliminary science subjects has been transferred to the Government College. The result of raising the preliminary educational test in the Medical Schools is still felt, but it is believed that many more men possessing the Entrance Examination qualification will soon seek admission. The number of students attending the North India Medical School for Christian Women at Ludhiána rose considerably, and the institution is attracting pupils from all parts of India, one having even come from the Malabar Coast. The Veterinary College, the Mayo School of Industrial Art, and the Railway Technical School are all increasing in popularity and efficiency. In female education the want of sufficient trained teachers still hampers progress; but the result of the year's working at St. Bede's and the Auckland House Training Colleges and the Normal School for women at Lahore has been eminently staisfactory, and the small beginning, which has been made in these institutions, may, it is hoped, lead to the training of teachers on a large scale, or rather to the supply of the necessary material for training.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1. Physical Features of the Country, Area and Climate.

(See pages 1—12 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

2. Historical Summary.

(See pages 12—32 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

3. Form of Administration.

(See pages 32—35 of the report for the year 1901-02).

4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 35—43 of the report for the year 1901-02 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5. Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 44 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 45—53 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

7. Changes in the Administration.

Personnel.

1. Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I., assumed charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor on the 6th of March 1907, relieving Sir Charles Rivaz, K.C.S.I., who retired from the service.

Area, population and revenue of the Punjab.

2. The area of the province according to the latest returns is 97,394 square miles, its population (census of 1891) 20,340,372 and the land revenue collections 272 lakhs of rupees.

8. Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Political supervision.

3. The arrangements for the purposes of supervision of the Native States in the Punjab remain as they were at the time of the last report, Baháwalpur being included with the Phulkián States in the charge of a Political Agent. The States, with the exception of Chamba, which is in the political charge of the Commissioner of Lahore, are arranged in four groups as follows :—I, the Phulkián States, comprising the States of Patiála, Jínd and Nábha, for which a separate Political Agent was appointed on the 16th January 1901, and in whose charge Baháwalpur is now included ; II, the States of Kapúrthala, Mandi, Máler Kotla, Faridkot and Suket in the political charge of the Commissioner of Jullundur ; III, the States of Sirmúr, Kalsia, Pataudi, Loháru and Dujána in the political charge of the Commissioner of Delhi ; and IV, the States of Biláspur, Bashahr, Nálagarh, Keonthal and numerous other small States in the Simla Hills, which are in the charge of the Superintendent of Hill States, Simla. Generally speaking, the administration in all the States has proceeded smoothly during the year under report. Plague has been prevalent throughout many of the States, but the Chiefs themselves have enjoyed good health, with the exception of His Highness the Nawáb of Baháwalpur, the principal Muhammadan Chief of the province, who died of pneumonia while returning from a pilgrimage to Mecca. The States of Patiála, Jínd, Nábha and Máler Kotla were honoured by visits from His Excellency the Viceroy and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. Six Chiefs, namely, the Rájas of Jínd, Nábha, Mandi and Suket, the Regent of Máler Kotla and the Sardár of Kalsia; came to Lahore in March to bid farewell to His Honour Sir Charles Rivaz and to welcome His Honour Sir Denzil Ibbetson, and four Chiefs of the Delhi division, namely, the Sardár of Kalsia, the Nawáb of Pataudi, the Nawáb of Loháru and the Nawáb of Dujána, went to Delhi to meet His Excellency the Viceroy.

Full information will be found in the report for 1901-02 as to the area, population, gross revenue and estimated Military forces, including Police, of each State and the following brief notices are inserted concerning special events of importance in the history of particular States during the year.

PATIALA.

Area, 5,412 square miles; population, 1,596,692; gross revenue, Rs. 65,57,930; army and police, 5,522; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 15.

Personal.

4. Mahárája Bhupindra Singh has enjoyed excellent health during the whole year, and has improved greatly in manners and bearing. Although he was absent from the Aitchison College from May till October 1906, he has made satisfactory progress in his studies, winning the mathematical prize for his class.

The result of the visit to Europe of Sir Ranbír Singh, K.C.S.I., the Mahárája's uncle, has been excellent. In the course of his six months' tour the Kanwar Sáhib visited England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Italy.

General.

5. There has been no change in the Council of Regency. The President, Sardár Gurmukh Singh, was honoured by a Companionship of the Order of the Star of India.

The settlement of the State is now nearly completed, and assessments have been announced in 11 out of 16 tahsíls. In spite of certain heavy expenses the finances remain in a very satisfactory condition and the statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the financial year shows a credit balance of Rs. 45,74,196. The expenditure on public works amounts to 13 lakhs of which 9 lakhs have been spent on original works. The foundation-stone of the water-works which are estimated to cost about 10 lakhs, was laid by His Excellency in December 1906. The State Imperial Service Troops continue to maintain their high state of efficiency, and are now a really capable body of irregular troops.

The year has been an unhealthy one, chiefly owing to the prevalence of malarial fever and plague. The latter increased greatly during the spring of 1907. Patiala city suffered to a less extent than did many of the other towns in the State, some of which were almost depopulated.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 282,051; gross revenue, Rs. 12,49,000; army and police, 1,868; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 28.

General.

6. His Highness Rája Ranbír Singh has enjoyed good health. The year on the whole has been a prosperous one; the monsoon rains were ample and there was a good kharíf crop. A sum of 5 lakhs, the savings of the previous year, was invested in Government paper, and it is proposed to use it later for railway development. Arrangements are being completed for irrigation from the extra supply sanctioned by Government last year from the Western Jumna Canal, and it is hoped that water for this purpose will be available next year.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 297,949; gross revenue, Rs. 14,71,539; army and police, 1,562; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 63.

Personal.

7. His Highness Rája Colonel Sir Híra Singh, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., has been in fairly good health during the year, though for some time in the cold weather he suffered from bad attacks of asthma. He was present in Agra in January at the Chapter of the Indian Orders; and, though he was suffering from asthma at the time, he was fortunately able to pay his respects to, and receive a visit from, His Excellency the Viceroy.

The Tikka Sáhib of Nábha was appointed an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Council during this year, and spent most of the cold weather in Calcutta. This absence prevented him from taking such an active part in the affairs of the State as he usually does.

8. The year has been a fairly prosperous one, the autumn and spring crops both being good. Plague has been very prevalent, more so probably than the official returns show. General.

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population, 720,877; gross revenue, Rs. 26,00,000; army and police, 1,093; race of Chief, Daudputra; age of Chief, 2.

9. The State suffered a sad loss by the sudden death of His Highness Nawáb Muhammad Baháwal Khán, Vth, Abbási. The Nawáb left Baháwalpur for his pilgrimage to Mecca in November 1906. He was then, apparently, in good health. Shortly after arriving at Jeddah he was taken ill with diarrhœa and fever, and though he was able to perform all the ceremonies of pilgrimage, his illness grew more serious, and when he reached Aden the Medical Officer, Colonel Monk, I.M.S., pronounced him to be suffering from pneumonia. Immediately his ship left Aden his vitality sank rapidly, and he died at sea on the 15th of February 1907. Nawáb Muhammad Baháwal Khán left a son, Sádiq Muhammad Khán, a child of two years old, who has been acknowledged as his successor. The late Nawáb's half brother, Háji Khán, has just entered the Chiefs' College at Lahore. Personal.

10 Arrangements for the administration of the State during the minority of the present Chief are now under the consideration of the Government of India. The finances are in a satisfactory condition, and when the treasury was examined by the Political Agent after the death of the late Nawáb the State was found to have a balance of Rs. 28,61,626. Of this sum ten lakhs are invested in Government paper and five lakhs are in fixed deposit with the Bank of Bengal. The greater part of the fixed boundary between Baháwalpur and the adjoining British districts has been laid down. The demarcation should obviate the constant disputes that used to arise every time the river changed its course, and will, it is trusted, assure peace on the border. Sufficient rain fell both in the hot weather and in the cold, and both harvests were good. General.

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 314,351; gross revenue, Rs. 20,00,000; army and police, 1,106; race of Chief, Ahlúwália Sikh; age of Chief, 33.

11. The Raja was absent in Europe for five months between May and September 1906. During his absence the business of the State was conducted, as usual, by the Administrative Council. The health of the Rája has been good. Personal.

MANDI.

Area, 12,000 square miles; population, 1,74,045; gross revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police, 172; race of Chief, Rájpút; age of Chief, 23; tribute Rs. 1,00,000.

12. The administration has been satisfactorily conducted, for which every credit is due to the Wazír, Pandit Jiwa Nand. General.

The Rája has been in good health and has attended to business regularly. He made two short pleasure excursions outside the limits of his territory in the year,—one to Kulu and one to Dharmsála.

Excessive rain is reported to have done very considerable damage to the roads and buildings, and the hill torrents and heavy hailstorms have seriously injured the cultivators' lands and crops. Prices ruled unusually high.

SIRMUR.

Area, 1,198 square miles; population, 1,35,687; gross revenue, Rs. 6,00,000; army and police, 458; race of Chief, Rájpút; age of Chief, 40.

General.

13. There has been no change in the administration of the State, which is conducted in the same efficient manner as hitherto. In December 1906 His Highness the Raja was invested with unrestricted power to pass sentence of death, as a personal mark of distinction. He was received by His Excellency at Simla in October 1906.

MALER KOTLA.

Area, 167 square miles; population, 77,506; gross revenue, Rs. 5,47,127; army and police, 356; race of Chief, Sherwáni Afghán; age of Chief, 48.

Personal.

14. The mental condition of Nawáb Ibráhim Ali Khán remains unchanged. The Regent has been in good health, and has given steady and interested attention to the administration of the State. In May 1906 he paid a short visit to Simla where he was granted interviews with His Excellency the Viceroy and with His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

Plague prevailed for some months; otherwise the health of the people was good. The finances are in satisfactory order.

FARIDKOT.

Area, 642 square miles; population, 124,912; gross revenue, Rs. 3,36,250; army and police, 325; race of Chief, Barar Ját; age of Chief, 11.

General.

15. The young Rája Brij Indar Singh is in good health, and since November 1906 has been a pupil at the Aitchison College. He is an intelligent boy, and the first report of progress received recently from the College gives promise of intellectual brightness and rapid advancement. His younger brother, the Kanwar, is with him in the College.

The State Council has worked very successfully under the Presidentship of Sardár Bahádur Risáldár Partáp Singh, Extra Assistant Commissioner. His colleagues, Munshi Abdul Ghafúr Khán and Sardár Naráin Singh, gave him loyal support and have worked well throughout.

SUKET.

Area, 420 square miles; population, 54,676; gross revenue, 1,27,971; army and police, 94; race of Chief, Chandarbansi Rájpút; age of Chief, 42.

General.

16. The Rája has enjoyed fairly good health. The Ráni, who had suffered in health for some time past, died in December 1906. Tikka Bhím Sen has continued to reside at the Aitchison College and to attend the Government College at Lahore.

In May 1906 some of the officials of the State openly quarrelled with the Chief and fled to Mandi. Charges of fraud in respect of the treasury were brought against them by the Rája. To some extent the people became disaffected and the position of affairs in the State appeared to be serious. A full enquiry was held into the trouble by the Commissioner. There was, however, no

proof of any extensive mis-government in the State, and it appeared reasonable to hope that an adjustment of affairs could be effected without resorting to extreme measures.

KALSIA.

Area, 168 square miles; population, 67,181; gross revenue, Rs. 1,70,079; army and police, 119; race of Chief, Jat; age of Chief, 24.

17. The administration of the State in this the first year, during which the Sardar has exercised full powers, has been satisfactory. Khán Bahádur Munshi Ináyat Ullah, who managed the State during the minority, is still in service as a Counsellor. Plague broke out during the year and prevailed in many villages in the Bari and Chachrauli tahsíls. General.

PATAUDI.

Area, 52 square miles; population, 21,933; gross revenue, Rs. 85,577; army and police, 42; race of Chief Afghán; age of Chief, 47.

18. Mr. P. L. Chandu Lál was appointed Manager of the State in December 1906. General.

Nawábzáda Muhammad Ibráhím Ali Khán left the Aitchison College, Lahore, and joined the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dera Dún in July 1906 but the Government of India have since the close of the year permitted him to withdraw from the Corps. He was married to the daughter of the Nawáb of Loháru, Sir Amír-ud-dín Ahmad Khán, K.C.I.E., on the 29th April 1907.

LOHARU.

Area, 222 square miles; population, 15,229; gross revenue, Rs. 66,000; army and police, 43; race of Chief, Mughal; age of Chief, 47.

19. An officer of the Punjab Commission was deputed with the Nawáb's concurrence to investigate the finances of the State and to suggest a method of readjustment. His report resulted in an application to the Government of India for sanction to the raising of a loan from the Punjab Court of Wards to enable the Nawáb to pay his creditors and re-establish the credit of his State. General.

BILASPUR.

Area, 448 square miles; population, 90,873; gross revenue, Rs. 1,90,000; army and police, 97; race of Chief, Hindu Rájpút; age of Chief 33; tribute, Rs. 8,000.

20. His Highness Rája Bije Chand is still in Benares. The debt has been reduced from over a lakh to Rs. 28,000 and will be cleared during the coming year. General.

BASHAHR.

Area, 3,820 square miles; population, 80,572; gross revenue, Rs. 95,000; army and police, 13; race of Chief, Hindu Rájpút; age of Chief, 69.

21. Rái Mangat Rám continues to manage the State satisfactorily. The Punjab Government allotted a grant of Rs. 20,000 per annum from the forest income for purposes of general improvement, and a portion of this will be expended on the erection of supply-houses, along the Hindustán-Tibet road. The people resent most measures connected with forest protection, and complaints were made in the course of the year in regard to the alleged restriction of grazing areas and the supply of timber. Certain concessions have been made and rules drawn up which will tend to allay further agitation. General.

OTHER SIMLA HILL STATES.

General.

22. The affairs of Ghund remained in an unsatisfactory condition. The Chief was at issue with his eldest son, Ranjit Singh. The revenue is in arrears and the tribute due to Keonthal has not been paid It has been found that the forests, the management of which was taken over by Government, have been so devastated that little or no income is likely to be realised from them for ten years. As it became evident that neither the Thákur nor his son could conduct the affairs of the State in a tolerable manner, the administration has been entrusted to a Manager, Munshi Gurdhián, who will administer both Khaneti and Ghund States. In Madhan the succession of Tika Ranbír Chand was confirmed. The disturbances in the State of Khaneti have been settled. The Manager, Gobind Rám, has been removed and a Kanúngo from Kángra, Munshi Gurdhián, who will also administer Ghund, has been appointed in his place. Arrangements have been made by which the Patiála State will construct a cart-road from Kálka to Badi in Nálagarh, and when this is done and the bridge constructed across the Sutlej at Dihar there will be through communication to Suket and Kángra. The Rája of Keonthal continues to pay the fixed instalments towards liquidation, but the State is still heavily in debt. The affairs of the Bághal State are now in good order and the debts will be paid off in the course of the current year. The settlement operations are progressing smoothly. The son of the Rána of Dhami, who was born in October 1905, died in October 1906. A son and heir to the Thákur of Ráwín was born in October 1906 and a second son to the Rána of Kuthár in December 1906.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

General.

23. There has been absolute peace on the Baluch frontier during the year. working of the Border Military police posts, which has been strengthened by the addition of seventeen mounted men, has again been most satisfactory. Nawáb Bahrám Khán has proved himself a worthy successor to his father, and his influence both among the Balúch tribes of Dera Gházi Khan and of Balúchistán is of immense value to the administration.

9. Condition of the people.

Wages.

24. The period dealt with by this report, in one section or another, covers the greater part of two years, and according as the subject is the administration of justice, a branch of finance, or revenue, a different portion or rather a year calculated from a different date is considered. If the period be taken as a whole the main features are the disastrous autumn harvest of the calendar year 1905, and the ravages of plague in the spring and summer of 1907. The bad harvest was more than counterbalanced by the finest crop on record harvested in the spring of 1906, but nothing can counterbalance the appalling losses from plague. Year by year the scarcity of labour makes itself felt more and more. Wages are steadily rising; and looked at from the narrow point of view of the daily labourer who survives, there has never been such prosperity. If we examine the rates of wages paid we find that in the spring and early summer of 1907, in the remote tracts, there was still little competition, and labourers could be hired for 2 to 3 annas per diem, in addition to food. This contrasts sharply with the Re. 1-8-0 and more per diem paid in Lahore at harvest time. In Montgomery wages rose at harvest time to Re. 1-4-0 per diem, double the ordinary rates. In Shahpur, where the plague was particularly virulent, reapers could make good a claim to $\frac{1}{2}$ the produce harvested instead of the normal share of 1-20th: and even then crops often remained uncut owing to the dearth of able-bodied men. In Ráwalpindi and Attock as the harvest proceeded the demands of labour rose from $\frac{1}{4}$th share of the crop to $\frac{1}{3}$rd and culminated in $\frac{1}{2}$, which had to be conceded.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications:—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year 1st October 1905 to 30th September 1906.

General Report on the Operations of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Annual Report on the Settlement Operations in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Report of the Operations of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Annual Report of the working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act XIII of 1900 for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Annual Reports for the Chenab, Jhelum and Chuniáa Colonies for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Report on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1906.]

10. Realization of the Land Revenue.

General conditions in 1905-06.

25. The autumn crop of 1905 was an extraordinarily poor one, the failed area being equal to 41 per cent. of the sown area, a result much inferior even to that of the famine year of 1901. The cotton crop suffered severely in the Lahore and Multán divisions and was a complete failure in the Chenab Colony. Fortunately the following spring harvest of 1906 was magnificent, the area sown and cropped being both the largest on record; and the yield 129 per cent. of the normal. The combined result of two harvests, equally abnormal in opposite extremes, was an almost normal outturn of 101·3 per cent. for the year.

Fixed land revenue.

26. The fixed land revenue demand was Rs. 2,05,86,026 as compared with Rs. 2,07,54,362 for the previous year. The difference of Rs. 1,68,336 was due to a total increase of Rs. 1,21,302 and a total decrease of Rs. 2,89,638, the two largest items of increase being Rs. 26,587, following the re-assessment of the Attock tahsíl and Rs. 21,346 in Lahore due to the resumption of revenue grants, gain by alluvion, and the assessment of waste land brought under cultivation. The decrease was almost entirely due to the introduction of fluctuating assessments in a portion of the Gujránwála district. Of the total demand 89·1 per cent. was collected, the low percentage being due to the failure of the autumn crop. Collections on account of previous years amounted to 2·6 lakhs.

Suspensions and remissions.

27. Suspensions during the year amounted to 22·78 lakhs compared with 4·5 lakhs last year. Of this sum 19·71 lakhs were suspended in the Delhi division, chiefly on account of the autumn failure. The greater part of the amount suspended in Lahore on account of the cotton failure in the autumn was collected in the following spring harvest. The total amount of suspended revenue collected was 5·68 lakhs. Of this over a third, or 2 lakhs, were realised in the Hissar district, where the spring harvest was so abnormaly good as to allow of the collection of 250 per cent. of the normal demand. Of the sums under suspension 4·6 lakhs were remitted, a figure made up almost entirely of sums suspended for more than three years. The failure of

the cotton crop of 1905 necessitated remissions of canal rates and land revenue (mostly fluctuating) to the extent of over 30 lakhs. The balances now outstanding have risen from 8·58 to 22·37 lakhs. The recoverable balance not under suspension has fallen considerably.

Fluctuating land revenue.

28. The extension of the fluctuating system of assessments combined with the excellent spring harvest increased the total demand of fluctuating land revenue, permanently excluded from the rent roll, from 40·36 lakhs to 45·07 lakhs, the principal increases being 1·86 lakhs in Multán, 1·38 lakhs in Montgomery and ·98 lakhs in Jhang. In Multán and Montgomery this result is due to an excellent spring crop, in Jhang it is due partly to the same cause and partly to revision of assessment. The only district which shews a considerable decrease in collections is Shahpur, where there are large arrears mostly in the colony villages. Collections under the head "fluctuating assessment of canal-irrigated lands" for the year rose from Rs. 20, 68,935 to Rs. 28,24,738 in spite of the failure of the cotton crop of 1905 and the remission of nearly 30 lakhs on this account in the attumn. The popularity of the fluctuating system is not yet established. In Rohtak, where it has been introduced in 12 villages, it is not appreciated. This is also the case in Ferozepore Elsewhere the people are gradually learning, it is believed, that the advantages more than counterbalance the defects.

Miscellaneous land revenue.

29. The total collections for the year of miscellaneous land revenue amount to Rs. 12,59,207, or a decrease of nearly 1 lakh as compared with last year. As usual, the colony districts contribute the great bulk of the total, but receipts under this head are naturally declining. Almost all the collections on account of the sale of town sites were in the Jhelum and Jhang Colonies and Attock. Receipts from "tirni"* have declined and must continue to do so.

Collection of land revenue.

30. Coercive processes for collection of land revenue have continued to show a satisfactory decrease. There was, however, an increase in three districts, and the fact that in Multán the uncertainty of the demand on account of fluctuating assessments has led to the issue of a large number of warrants is a development of the question of fluctuating assessments which is receiving attention. There were only 6 cases of imprisonment for non-payment, and on the whole the amount finally assessed was easily collected.

11. Survey.

Survey of India Party No. 18.

31. A supplementary survey on the 2-inch scale was carried out by No. 18 party in the Multán, Muzaffargarh and Dera Gházi Khan districts. A total area of 3,047 square miles were surveyed. This nearly completes the whole of the irrigated areas of the Multán and Muzaffargarh districts, including such portions of Dera Gházi Khan and the Baháwalpur State as fall in the same sheets. An area of 4,600 square miles in Jhang, Lyallpur, Montgomery, Shahpur and the Baháwalpur State was traversed in addition to the completion of the traverses required for the compilation of all the boundaries on the 6 rivers of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province. This work fell in 12 districts and States and included 729 linear miles of traverse. Considerable progress has been made with the Himalayan maps, and of the 430 large maps of the riverain tract 200 have been completed.

Boundary demarcation.

32. The boundaries on the Sutlej between the Baháwalpur State and the Montgomery and Multán districts, respectively, have been finally determined. Small transfers of estates were effected between (*i*) the Montgomery and Lyallpur districts, (*ii*) the Lahore and Ferozepore districts, (*iii*) the Attock and Peshawar districts, and (*iv*) the Hissar district and the Bikáner State, and the Sakesar *Rakh*† was divided between the three districts of Shahpur, Attock and Miánwáli.

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* *Tirni*—Dues for grazing in Government waste.

† *Rakh*—Government waste.

12. Settlements.

33. The Jhang settlement, which has proved a specially arduous one, has been completed. The new assessments have been sanctioned in Ráwalpindi and the work is almost finished in that district. The total assessment sanctioned is Rs. 9,94,052 against Rs. 9,61,500 proposed by the Settlement Officer. New assessments have also been sanctioned in parts of Miánwáli, and Háfizabad in the Gujránwála district. It is now anticipated that the Gurgaon settlement, which it was hoped would be completed in four years, will certainly last five, a result largely due to a change in the Settlement Officers necessitated by illness. Steady progress has been made in Karnál, Rohtak, Delhi and Miánwáli, but experience is shewing that the anticipation that operations can ordinarily be completed in four years is too sanguine. The case regarding enhancement of occupiers' rates on the Bari Doab Canal has been disposed of during the year, and revised rates have been notified, which are expected to yield an increase of Rs. 5,62,292 per annum.

13. Land Records.

34. The year was marked by two administrative changes of importance, the separation of the Department of Land Records from that of Agriculture and the abolition of the patwár cess. The separation of the two departments is doubtless a step of considerable moment. The combined charge had, in view of the growing importance of agricultural and veterinary questions, become too large for a single officer, and the separation will certainly work in the direction of efficiency. The abolition of the patwár cess constitutes an appreciable relief to the agricultural community, and will, it is anticipated, do little towards dislocating the efficiency of a system which had been in work for some years. For the income formerly realised from the patwár cess, the Government of India have sanctioned a compensatory recurring assignment of Rs. 15,64,000 per annum, a sum which represented the estimated income from the fund as shown in the budget for 1906-07. Any growth in expenditure is to be met from the growth of provincial revenues.

Mutation of title.

35. The number of mutation and partition cases decided is greater than last year, but the pending file is also larger. The question whether changes should be made in the existing system of effecting mutations in the revenue records with the object both of improving their value as records of title, and of saving the landowners of the province from the inconveniences attendant on the present concurrent requirements of the registration and revenue officers, is under consideration.

14. Waste lands and Government Estates.

Chenab Colony.

36. On the Chenab Colony 1,829,880 acres have now been allotted, leaving a balance of 97,515. 13,083 acres were allotted during the year. 4,000 acres of Government waste will be available on the sanctioned Sultán Pakhara extension, the construction of which will commence early in the current year. 172,000 acres of Crown land will probably be commanded on three other extensions, not yet sanctioned, where irrigation is expected to be begun in 1909. A small area refused by persons to whom it was offered as a compensatory grant was given out on temporary cultivation; 18,000 acres were bought by tenant grantees during the year; and occupancy rights were acquired over 344,000 acres. *Killabándi** was completed on the Dang Ali extension and in two old villages. 228 villages were remeasured, and records-of-rights were prepared for them, including the village sites. A census of the colony taken in September shewed a total population of 858,000, an increase in five years of only 67,000; the smallness of the growth is ascribed to the facts that Jhang grantees in many cases do not reside on their land, and that

Killabándi—Realignment of field boundaries so as to make them run parallel to the rectangular survey squares.

tenants originally employed for clearance have been dispensed with. The failure of the cotton crop and the poor outturn of sugarcane marred what would otherwise have been a successful year. The spring crop of wheat was excellent and high prices did much to compensate for the cotton disaster. The sown area rose from 1,647,000 to 1,818,000 acres permanently allotted, but 15 per cent. failed as compared with 3 per cent. in the previous year. Among the prominent features of progress, the establishment of a local Agricultural Association for the discussion of agricultural topics and the popularisation of scientific methods and machinery is very promising.

Mule-breeding continues to show the most satisfactory progress, and a considerable number of colonists who are not bound by mule-breeding conditions have taken to the business of their own accord on seeing how profitable it is. On the other hand, the practical cessation of private camel-breeding must be accepted as the inevitable result of the extension of canal irrigation and of railways. The deterioration of the quality of grantee camels in the Colony in spite of all that has been done to foster the system is very marked, and it must ultimately become a question whether mule-breeding will not have to be substituted for camel-breeding grants.

Jhelum Colony.

37. The Crown land remaining for allotment on the Jhelum colony is 98,969 acres. It is satisfactory to note that all grantees on horse-breeding conditions have now got land which will amply repay them for the cost of the upkeep of a mare. During the year out of 15 *chaks** to be allotted, 3 were considered too poor for any but Janglís. It appears from the report that all cavalry grantees and all the *Janglis*† have now been provided with suitable grants. Only 16 civil grantees out of 45 and 67 infantry grantees out of 211 accepted the land offered them, and even when they did the Colonisation Officer was unable to regard the allotments as satisfactory. Subject to the results of two or three years' temporary cultivation of the remaining Jhelum land, the Chenab extensions will have to be utilized in making good promises already made.

The system of *killabandi* has been completed over all the Crown land, and the preparation of the record-of-rights has been rapidly pushed on. Practically all the colonists to whom land was allotted up to October 1905 have now built their houses, and almost 8,000 new houses were erected in the year. The enforcement of the condition of residence, and the marked tendency of the colonists to settle down in the colony are matters for satisfaction.

Chunian Colony.

38. The total allotted area in the Chunian colony proper is now 74,638 acres. 4,213 acres were given out on temporary cultivation. 838 acres of Crown land and 17 proprietary villages were surveyed and demarcated. In 16 colony villages the records-of-rights were prepared, and in 12 old villages revised in connection with the introduction of the system of *killabandi*, which is being pushed on, though not without some difficulty. The colony shared the general cotton failure, but had a good spring harvest, and no balance of the Government demand remained uncollected.

Jhang Colony.

39. 7,482 acres out of 19,190 have been allotted during the year on the Jhang colony. Good prices have been realised for the sale of sites at Shah Jiwana and Jhang.

Other Government waste.

40. Owing to deficiencies in the soil and difficulties in irrigation it has been decided to abandon altogether the idea of starting plantations on the Jhelum Canal and to defer indefinitely the proposals to reserve an area for this purpose

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* *Chak*—A new village formed in State-owned waste.

† *Jangli*—A landless nomad.

on the Khiki extension of the Chenab Canal. In place of these areas, it has now been decided to set aside a tract of 48,915 acres at Pir Mahal on the Rajana extension of the Chenab Canal and to form an irrigated plantation on 36,000 acres in the tract so set aside. Work in the Hoshiarpur district under the Punjab Land Preservation (Chos*) Act, 1900, is progressing satisfactorily. The heavy rainfall of 1906 while it aided afforestation of the hills has done considerable damage to lands below, though less than would have been the case but for the existence of protective plantations of *kharkána*† grass. The villagers in the plains are now fully alive to the advantages of planting this grass in the *Chos*, but there is still room for a good deal of improvement in the direction of concerted action. Difficulties arise when it becomes necessary to make plantations or embankments on the lands of one village for the protection of another, owing to the apprehension that they may result in the diversion of the *Cho* to the lands of the unaffected village.

15. Wards Estates.

Court of Wards.

41. The most important of the new estates which were brought during the year under the Court of Wards is that of the late Sardár Hardit Singh of Ráwalpindi, a commercial magnate, who left property valued at over 44 lakhs. The status of the family, which is commercial rather than agricultural, would ordinarily not have justified assumption of control, and were it not for the size and complexity of the estate, the long minority before the heirs, and the quarrels of the relatives, the Court would not have been justified in assuming management. Steady progress was made in paying off the debts of the estates of the wards, the liabilities being reduced by about 2½ lakhs in all.

The number of estates under management is 45, as against 43 in the preceding year. Five fresh properties were taken over, and three were released during the year of report.

16. Revenue and rent-paying classes.

Land Alienation Act.

42. A Bill for the amendment of the Land Alienation Act received the assent of the Governor-General in Council on the 13th April 1907. The main feature of the Bill is that the statutory agriculturist, who enjoyed the privileges of a member of an agricultural tribe in an estate in which he or his ancestors had owned land for a definite term, has ceased to exist. The position of the landlord who wishes to acquire the occupancy rights of his tenant has been still further safeguarded by making sanction to the alienation unnecessary. The result of this Act will be to stop evasions in which the agriculturist acted as a go-between in the acquisition of land on behalf of his fellow money-lender, and to put an end to a specially favored class, with peculiar facilities for aquiring land amounting in many cases almost to a monopoly. During the year a portion of the province has, for the first time since the passing of the Act, been exposed to famine conditions; and it is satisfactory to find that the new conditions have stood the test, and that the contraction of credit which resulted from them has not been of such a nature as unduly to embarrass the cultivator; though it has apparently led to an increase in the amounts advanced by Government. There has been a slight increase in the areas sold and mortgaged, but agricultural tribes have both bought more land than they have sold and have gained by redemption more than they have mortgaged. The price of land has remained practically unaltered.

Tenants and rents.

43. If the figures from two districts, Jullundur and Hoshiárpur, be omitted there has been no increase in the number of suits for enhancement of rent throughout the province. In these two districts, which now account for two-thirds of the provincial total, agricultural prosperity is apparently the cause of the increase. Owing to the ravages of plague, the supply of labor at harvest time and more

* *Cho*—A torrent bed.

† *Kharkána*—A tough fibrous grass.

especially at the bumper spring harvests of the last two years, and in the canal colonies has been most inadequate. The rate of wages has been very high, and so long as this state of things continues the tenant-at-will, so far from being in any danger of being rack rented, mu st be in a most favourable position.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

44. Satisfactory progress is being made with the Descent of Jagirs Act; and assignments of the annual value of 5 lakhs have now been voluntarily placed under the rule of primogeniture. The unwillingness still shown by many assigness to accept the new rule is due to reluctance to incur the odium of having consented to the change more than to a want of appreciation of the solid advantages to be gained thereby.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

BAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

[Detailed information and statistics on the subjects included in this chapter will be found in the following reports:—

Police.—Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1906.

Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1906.

Criminal Justice.—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1906.

Prisons.—Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1906.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1906.

Registration.—Note on the Registration Returns of the Punjab for the year 1906.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

Local Boards Administration.—Report on the working of the Local Boards in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

And in the following tables of the Volume of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06, Eleventh Issue, *viz.*, Police (Tables VII, Criminal Justice (Tables IV), Jails (Tables V), Civil Justice (Tables III), Registration (Tables IX) and Municipalities (Tables XVII).]

17. Legislating Authority.

(See pages 83 and 84 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

18. Course of Legislation.

Meetings of Punjab Council.

45. During the year 1906-07 three meetings of the Punjab Legislative Council were held at Lahore on the following dates:—

25th October 1906.

21st February 1907.

28th February 1907.

Bills passed.

46. The following Bills were passed:—

(*a*) The Bill to amend certain provisions of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887, on the 25th October 1906. After receiving the assent of the Governor-General on the 10th December 1906, it was published as Punjab Act I of 1906.

(*b*) The Bill to amend the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, was passed on the day it was introduced in Council, *i.e.*, on the 25th October 1906, and having received the assent of the Governor-General on the 14th December 1906 it was published as Punjab Act II of 1906.

(*c*) The Bill to regulate the use of Motor-Vehicles in the Punjab was passed at the meeting held on the 21st February 1907. It received the assent of the Governor-General on the 28th March 1907 and was published as Punjab Act I of 1907.

(*d*) The Bill amending the Punjab Alienation of Land Act was passed in Council on the 21st February 1907. It received the assent of the Governor-General on the 13th April 1907, and was published as Punjab Act II of 1907.

(*e*) The Bill to make better provision for the colonization and administration of Government lands in the Punjab was passed in Council at the meeting held on the 28th February 1907. It was submitted for the assent of the Governor-General, which was not accorded.

Members of Punjab Council.

47. The following changes took place amongst the Honourable Members during the period:—

The Hon'ble Sir Lewis Tupper, the Hon'ble Mián Muhammad Shah Din and the Hon'ble Sir D. P. Masson resigned their seats. Sardár Partáb Singh, Ahluwália, Thákur Mahan Chand and Malik Umar Hyát Khán, Tiwána, were appointed members on the 26th January 1906. Mr. E. D. Maclagan, C. S., was appointed a member on the 16th April 1906.

Acts.

48. The Acts which apply to the Punjab as well as to other parts of British India and which received the Governor-General's assent during the year 1906-07 were as follows:—

No. of Act.	Subject.	Extent.	Date of Governor-General's assent.
VII of 1906	An Act to amend the Excise Act, 1896 ...	British India	31st August 1906.
VIII of 1906	An Act to amend the Land Improvements Loans Act, 1883, and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884.	Ditto	Ditto.
I of 1907 ...	An Act further to amend the Presidency Banks Act, 1876.	General	15th February 1907.
III of 1907...	The Provincial Insolvency Act, 1907... ...	Whole of British India, except the scheduled districts.	15th March 1907.
IV of 1907...	An Act to repeal and amend certain enactments relating to abolished rates and cesses.	Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Central Provinces, Coorg, Ajmer and Marwára.	20th March 1907.

19. Police.

Condition of crime.

49. The criminal statistics for the year reflect to a considerable extent the economic conditions prevailing in the province during the period. The year 1906, following on a period of scarcity and high prices, combined with a very severe epidemic of plague, opened under very unfavourable conditions, and it was not until timely rains had altered the agricultural outlook and lowered prices that the criminal record of the year displayed a change for the better. In the central and south-east Punjab a marked tendency to a rise in crime was distinctly traceable during the earlier months of the year, and there was reason to anticipate that the abnormal scale of offences against property of the previous year would be more than maintained. The increase in this class of crime during the earlier part of the year was, however, counterbalanced to a considerable extent by improved conditions later, and the figures as a whole exhibit only a very slight increase over those of 1905. In the north and south-west of the province, which were only very slightly affected by agricultural stress or plague, theft and kindred offences have decreased.

In the case of other forms of crime it is satisfactory to notice that in the most serious class of offences against the person a substantial decrease occurred. Murders dropped from 475 to 453, and cases of culpable homicide from 228 to 218. Dakaitis, which reached the high level of 151 cases in 1900, have shewn a remarkable diminution in the last three years and now stand at 46 cases only. Offences relating to coin have also decreased, and the cases detected point to the conclusion that the methods employed are generally clumsy and the counterfeits produced of a crude type. A considerable number of false coins are successfully passed at railway stations, and either the main sources of supply of these have not been discovered, if they exist in the province, or they must be sought further afield. Continued vigilance is therefore necessary to cope successfully with this type of crime. The same remark applies to thefts of arms, for the commission of which trans-border gangs, well organized and cleverly led, are said to be mainly responsible.

50. Statistics afford sufficient indications that the improvement noticed in previous reports has been well maintained, the percentages being much the same as in the two preceding years except in Magistrates' "true cases" where the percentage of convictions showed a marked improvement from 7 to 9. Viewed from the standpoint of improved morale and a generally higher standard of duty there is evidence of gradual progress and the Inspector-General is able to report that with the improved pay and prospects introduced by the reorganization scheme a better and more willing spirit animates all ranks, while descipline has been well maintained. That there is ample justification for this view is shown by the substantial fall in resignations and desertions, the decrease in punishments, both departmental and judicial, and the rise in rewards granted to members of the force. **Working of Police.**

51. Eleven new punitive posts were established during the year and sixteen already in existence were continued for a further period. **Punitive posts.**

52. The railway police had to deal with an increase of 112 cases owing to the addition of 771 miles to their jurisdiction. The Sind section of the North-Western Railway has not yet been taken over by the Bombay Police, but it is hoped that the transfer will not be long delayed. The conduct and working of the railway police were on the whole good, and it is satisfactory to note that the system of co-operation with the district police is undergoing considerable improvement. **Railway Police.**

53. A third range was formed during the year and a Deputy Inspector-General with an office staff appointed. A grade of constables on Rs. 10 per mensem was formed, and this has since been supplemented by a further grade on Rs. 11, which brings the pay and grading of the rank and file up to the standard sanctioned by the Government of India. Sub-Inspectors were regraded on the new scale; six Deputy Superintendents were added to the cadre, and a number of Court and Reserve Inspectors appointed, while conveyance and daily allowances were sanctioned for various grades of the force. **Changes in establishment.**

RURAL POLICE.

(See pages 88 and 89 of the report for 1901-02.) **Rural Police.**

CRIMINAL TRIBES.

54. The total number of persons registered under the Act at the close of the year was 20,258, being an increase of 587 on the previous year's figures. This increase is mainly due to the fact that the registration of the Gutkas of the Lahore district and the Biluchis of two villages in Jhang, which was commenced in 1905, was completed during the year 1906. Convictions show a general decrease of 55 cases, but there was an increase of 58 cases under the Criminal Tribes Act, which may fairly be attributed to better supervision. The number of absentees shows a decrease of 65, which is satisfactory, taking into consideration the increase of 516 registered members in the Lahore and Jhang districts. There were 5,185 exempted persons at the close of 1906, 436 having been exempted during the year This year also the only tribes which showed any signs of improvement were the Baurias, the Harnis, the Minas of Gurgaon and the Giloi Biluchis of the Lyallpur district. Crime committed by the wandering criminal tribes continues to increase. Little real surveillance can be maintained over these gangs in existing circumstances. **Criminal tribes.**

20. Criminal Justice.

55. The most striking feature is the marked rise of nearly 10,000 in the total number of offences reported during the year, which have increased from 188,961 in 1905 to 198,557 in 1906. 130,964 of these cases were returned as true, giving an increase of 3,200 only in offences which are known to have actually occurred. 68 per cent. of this number were under the Indian Penal Code, and the remainder under local and special laws. Of the total number of **Cases and convictions.**

persons brought to trial, 27 per cent. were convicted. In cases under the Penal Code the percentage of convictions is 22 only, which gives the same result as in 1905.

Explanation of the increase.

56. Excluding a rise of 2,000 cases due to the prevalence of scarcity in the Delhi division during the early part of the year and an increase in the number of complaints filed under Act XIII of 1859 owing to the commencement of work on the Upper Chenab Canal, the conclusion arrived at by the Judges is that the bulk of the increase is due to the cause, which has frequently formed the subject of comment in previous reports, *viz.*, the litigious nature of the Punjabi peasant. The Judges in fact go so far as to say that 'resort to the criminal courts becomes every year more popular, and is out of all proportion to the real amount of crime.' The class of offences under which the increases have mainly occurred, consisting of petty assaults, mischief, trespass, intimidation and the like, combined with the very high percentages of failure of these charges for want of prosecution and the very low ratio of convictions obtained, point indubitably to the fact that the bulk of these charges should never have been brought and that litigation of this nature is very largely artificial. Nor is it the case, that these false complaints are always brought in satisfaction of a private grudge. A large number of them probably take their origin in that inveterate habit of using the cheaper agency of the criminal courts in what are really civil disputes, which it is so difficult to repress.

Matrimonial cases.

57. The statistics relating to crime in the province have already been examined in the police report, and the only feature of interest which need be noticed here is the further increase in matrimonial offences. The accepted theory in the past has been that the rise in this class or offences is very largely due to plague, which owing to heavy female mortality has enhanced the value of the women who survive and thereby led to the institution of many fraudulent matrimonial claims, pushed under cover of a criminal charge. It would appear that in certain districts of the province, at any rate, deeper causes are at work, and that a gradual change in social conditions is resulting in the growing independence of women from parental control in their marital relations. The consequence is frequent domestic conflicts followed by the institution of the inevitable complaint of abduction by parents, who allege a previous marriage.

Security cases.

58. There was a considerable increase in the number of persons required to find security to keep the peace, the explanation of which is to be found in the fact that magistrates are more careful than formerly not to allow compromises in such cases unless they are satisfied that the matter in dispute has been really settled. Instructions have been issued by the Judges to ensure that the subordinate courts exercise their power of allowing compromises in grievous hurt cases with care and discretion as there is reason to believe that the laxity in permitting compromises in such cases almost as a matter of course has led in the last few years to an increase in cases of serious injury against the person.

21. Prisons.

Jails and jail population.

59. The total admissions into the jails of the province exhibit a very satisfactory decrease from 38,079 in 1905 to 36,426 in 1906, and there has been a steady decline in admissions since 1902, when the figure for all classes stood at 40,657. The daily average population has risen slightly, but this is explained by the considerable increase in transfers from other provinces during the year and also to some extent by the issue of instructions in March 1906 suspending the transportation of term convicts until further orders. The number of jails in the province remained the same, but the new jail at Campbellpur was completed by the 31st December, and the project for a new central jail to serve the southern districts has now reached a practical stage. In spite of the care that is taken to maintain an even distribution of the prison population by transfers, the number of admissions is liable to such sudden and great fluctuations in individual jails that the prevention of overcrowding is a matter of great difficulty. Lahore and

Hoshiarpur among district jails were seriously overcrowded for considerable periods, and the Montgomery central jail was hard pressed for accommodation during most of the year.

Juvenile offenders.

60. The number of juvenile offenders admitted into jail still stands at an unneccessarily high figure in spite of the fact that there is no lack of accommodation in the well-equipped reformatory school at Delhi, and that the rules for admission to that institution were purposely relaxed in January 1906 in order to cover the cases of boy-offenders of almost every type. There is, however, a much more difficult type of convict to deal with, *viz.*, the juvenile adult whose age varies from 16—21 years. Proposals for the separation and special treatment of this class of prisoners are under consideration, and it would be premature to discuss them at the present stage. Hitherto the juvenile adult class has been accommodated in special sections of two of the central jails, and dealt with as far as possible on reformatory lines; but the Inspector-General reports that the practical difficulty of enforcing strict separation from the ordinary prison population has vitiated the value of the system and deprived it of any appreciable success.

Nature of sentences and classification of criminals.

61. The number of first offenders sentenced to terms of imprisonment of six months or less was 9,164, or over 56 per cent. of the total sentenced during the year. The detailed figures moreover show that over two-thirds of this number were imprisoned for periods varying from one to three months only. It is not possible to judge from the jail returns how far these large admissions of casuals are avoidable; but the fact remains that any extensive influx of short-term first offenders renders effective segregation very difficult, and must expose many a prisoner of this class to the risk of contamination. There was considerable improvement in identification and classification on the part of both the police and the courts, and there is some probability of the Inspector-General of Prisons being able to devise a scheme for dealing more effectively with the difficult question of the entire segregation and special treatment of the habitual class.

Discipline.

62. Nine escapes occurred as against one only in 1905. Six of these were from extra-mural gangs, and in only one was there direct suspicion of connivance on the part of the warder in charge. The imposition of fetters and use of mechanical restraint have declined very considerably in recent years, and anything in the nature of extensive resort to this method of ensuring safe custody is mainly confined to two or three small and backward jails. The result has been that greater reliance and responsibility is now placed on the subordinate staff, who have on the whole responded very well to the call on their intelligence and energy. Discipline has been steadily maintained and corporal punishments have been reduced to a very low figure. The habitual offender still contributes in a disproportionate degree to the tale of prison offences, and is responsible for much of the serious crime recorded. Of the 65 prisoners punished with whipping for jail offences during the year 46 were habituals.

Cost, employment and health of prisoners.

63. The average cost per head of the prison population rose from Rs. 67-3-7 in 1905 to Rs. 69-9-9 in 1906, the increase being mainly due to the high prices of food-grains which prevailed during the early part of the year. Considerable economy was effected by timely purchase and storage of grain, and the jail gardens and farms contributed substantially to the support of the prisoners. Thirty-five per cent. of the convict population were employed on manufactures as against 33 per cent. in 1905. The gross profit on manufactures, however, decreased, and the cash earnings per head of those sentenced to labour exhibit a decline from Rs. 10 to Rs. 8-15-0. The bulk of the commodities manufactured are used by Government, and carpet and mat making are alone supported to any extent by the demand of the outside public.

The death rate of 16·34 per mille has again been not merely maintained but lowered during 1906, and stands at the very low figure of 15·76. This result attained during a year in which there was an appreciable increase both in the total

number and daily average of the sick treated furnishes a very valuable testimonial to the efficiency of the medical and sanitary arrangements of the jails in the province. Six cases of plague occurred with two deaths, but the disease was stamped out at once and did not spread.

22. Civil Justice.

Institutions.

64. The decline in the volume of civil litigation, which has been a prominent feature of the reports of several years past, experienced a marked check during the year. The number of suits instituted (167,350) represents an increase of 7 per cent. over the figures for 1905, and, although three districts, in which special local conditions stimulated litigation, account for a third of the increase, the balance is fairly well distributed over the province. The fact that the rise in institutions was very largely under the head of suits for money or moveable property seems to substantiate the explanation given in the report that the check furnished by the extension of the limitation period in Act I of 1904 is now disappearing and that the first batch of suits held up in consequence of the passing of that Act was filed in the year under report. In the course of the next two or three years it will be possible to gauge with greater accuracy what the precise effect of the Act has been.

The report contains marked indications of improvement in the status and well-being of the agriculturist, who seems to have taken considerable advantage of the special privileges he enjoys under both the Land Alienation and Pre-emption Acts. Suits for redemption of mortgage increased by 700, and notices and suits for sale and of foreclosure exhibit a substantial decline, while litigation involving money-lenders and agriculturists is less than sixty per cent. of what it was in 1901.

The average value of the suits instituted was Rs. 139-8-4 as compared with Rs. 151-11-4 in 1905. The figure for 1905 was abnormally high owing to the temporary decrease in suits for money and moveable property, and the average value for 1906, which is considerably greater than that recorded in 1903 and 1904, may be regarded as a satisfactory feature of the year's returns. It is improbable, however, that the present rate will be maintained, when petty litigation again reaches its normal level.

Disposals.

65. The courts have on the whole kept pace satisfactorily with the volume of original litigation with which they have had to deal. The number of cases decided was 3,404 in excess of the previous year, and even with the large increase in institutions the pending file was kept down to a comparatively reasonable level. At the same time the average duration of uncontested cases has fallen and that of contested cases has remained at the same figure as in 1905 in spite of a considerable increase in cases of a complicated nature.

The state of business in the Chief Court exhibits a very marked improvement over preceding years owing to the temporary strengthening of the Court by the appointment of four additional Judges, and there is reason to hope that the continuance of one of the extra Judges for a further period of six months will place the file of the court on a satisfactory basis. The burden of appellate work in Divisional Courts, however, increased very considerably during the year, and the pending file has reached dimensions which indicate marked congestion in all the courts. The question of strengthening this branch of the judicial agency is under consideration. The average duration of appeals in District Courts rose from 28 to 33 days, but the work seems to be well in hand and the pending file is reasonably low.

Execution.

66. The percentage of realizations in execution of decrees still stands at 24, or less than a quarter of the total value of money decrees in execution, and can hardly be regarded as satisfactory. It is hoped that a marked improvement will follow the introduction of the revised Code of Civil Procedure.

23. Registration.

Compulsory registrations, sales and mortgages.

67. The number of documents registered, of which the registration was compulsory, has risen from 58,476 to 69,970 or by 16 per cent.: the value of the property transferred has mounted from 418 lakhs to 500 lakhs of rupees, that is by the same percentage of 16. Sales and mortgages have both increased to a considerable extent — sales by 2,635 in number and by 34 lakhs of rupees in value, mortgages by 8,666 in number and by 65 lakhs of rupees in value. This very marked revival in business is found in most districts, and statistics show that the increase took place entirely in the first six months of the year. The chief cause throughout the province was probably the comparative immunity from plague during this period as compared with the previous years and the consequent completion of transfers which had been held in abeyance. Locally there were also special circumstances in favour of the revival as for instance the emigration of a large number of peasants from the Hoshiárpur and Jullundur districts who executed documents before leaving their homes, and the sale of tea estates and other property by Europeans in Kángra in consequence of the earthquake.

Optional registrations.

68. There has been a small rise in the number of documents optionally registered from 8,954 to 9,065, but the value of them has fallen from 947 thousands to 918 thousands of rupees. The small increase is of importance only as marking a turn in a tide which has been ebbing since 1902.

Income and expenditure.

69. Registration income has risen by Rs. 45,178 from Rs. 2,35,289 to Rs. 2,80,467 and expenditure has gone up from Rs. 1,24,810 to Rs. 1,33,633. The rise in expenditure is due to the introduction from April 1st, 1906, of a system based on that in force in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, by which sub-registrars doing duty at tahsil head-quarters have with a few exceptions been made departmental public servants remunerated by a fixed salary—usually of Rs. 30 per mensem — plus 15 per cent. of the fee income, instead of by a percentage of fees only as heretofore. Few, if any, of the sub-registrars have failed to benefit by the change and in the case of the smaller offices the pecuniary gain has been marked and the new system has been heartily welcomed.

Establishment.

70. During the year two offices at tahsil head-quarters, where work was light, and three out-offices were closed. Four new offices were opened at tahsil head-quarters. There were at the close of the year 17 honorary sub-registrars, 87 departmental sub-registrars and 8 cantonment magistrates doing registration work in addition to 29 treasury and sub-treasury officers working as sub-registrars and 90 such officers working as joint sub-registrars.

24. Local Boards Administration.

Constitution of district and local boards.

71. As regards the constitution of the boards, the only changes deserving mention are the reconstitution of the Gurgaon district board as a wholly nominated body and the abolition of local boards in Ferozepore. The necessity for the latter step only goes further to emphasize the failure of local boards to provide the means of local self-government in mofassil areas. In Kángra alone are local boards found to serve a useful purpose, and there only as consultative bodies.

Elections.

72. The district reports as a whole make it quite clear that the abolition of the elective system, to which effect has been given during the year in Gurgaon, is in no way a matter for regret. The apathy attending elections is specially commented upon by the Deputy Commissioners of Kángra, Hoshiárpur and Siálkot. The district officer of Gujránwála goes so far as to describe the system as unpopular except when it is perverted in order to serve the ends of local factions and animosity.

Meetings and work.

73. In Ambála, Gujránwála and Siálkot the Deputy Commissioners are making genuine effort to avail themselves of the advice and assistance of the representatives of the rural classes, and it is to be hoped that these efforts will not be abortive. In Multán and Ludhiána the members appear to be asked for and to give their advice freely, and in Lahore it appears that the members are willing to evince interest in the administration of the district if they can feel that the district officer is consulting them on matters on which their opinion is of value to him, and on which their advice is likely to be accepted.

25. Municipal Administration.

Constitution of committees.

74. As regards alterations in the area and constitution of municipal committees, the year 1906-07 has been uneventful. The question of the abolition of a number of petty municipalities, whose income and population appeared *primâ facie* too insignificant to deserve the municipal status, was considered, with the result that in a number of cases both the local officers of Government and the inhabitants of the towns themselves declared in favour of abolition. The case is at present under consideration. The overhauling of the octroi arrangements has in many towns necessitated the revision of boundaries,—a change which in most cases is well understood by the people and excites little interest. In order to admit of a better representation of the various classes of the community, reduction in the number of elective seats was found necessary in Ferozepore. Throughout the province 50 per cent. of the municipal commissioners are elected, in spite of the total absence of the elective system in large tracts of the western divisions. Out of a total of 1,485 members, officials number 298 and Europeans 107, respectively; there is therefore an official proportion of barely 20 per cent. of the whole. In only 52 out of 231 cases were vacant seats contested. In Ráwalpindi, Delhi and Ferozepore alone are the elections reported to arouse any interest, and in these places the interest appears to have attached to men rather than to measures.

Working of the committees.

75. Except in Shahpur and in a few small municipalities of the Lahore division, the number of meetings held was satisfactory; this is especially the case with the larger towns of the Delhi division and in the Multán division generally. Petty intrigue seems to have characterised the proceedings of a number of municipalities in the Delhi division, and factiousness and obstruction were rife in Ráwalpindi and Bhera. On the other hand, it is satisfactory to note the activity in Ludhiána and Siálkot, and in particular to observe that the introduction of the new system of accounts is said to have infused a fresh vigour into municipal life. The only new rules worthy of comment passed during the year refer to the extension of the provident fund system, and to the registration of children's names.

Octroi.

76. The revision of the octroi schedules for the province has progressed satisfactorily, almost 50 revised schedules having been notified up to the present date. A house-tax was substituted for octroi in the notified area of Rámdás, the abolition of the latter impost has been approved of for Murree, and the question of its abolition in notified areas is being considered. The problem of finding a substitute is one of considerable complexity, but signs are not wanting that the old prejudice gainst direct taxation is, at any rate in the more advanced trading centres of the province, beginning to break down. A general improvement is reported regarding the methods of collection of octroi, and the results of better supervision are reflected in the total receipts, but the cost of collection appears still very high, and has shewn a marked increase since the introduction of the Account Code. The percentage is particularly noticeable in the case of such small towns as Anandpur (32·65), Dharmkot (30·65), Alá-walpur (32·15), Makhu (75·2), Khudián (105) and Nárowál (39). The obvious unsuitability of this form of taxation in such cases needs no further comment, for the octroi seems to be collected almost entirely for the benefit of the establishment maintained for that purpose. Whatever effect the new system has

or has not had upon the financial position of municipalities, it certainly has proved conclusively that it was introduced none too soon in the interests of through trade.

77. The total receipts from taxation in municipalities rose by Rs. 1,31,000, octroi being responsible for an increase of Rs. 58,000. Taxation income in notified areas increased by Rs. 9,300. A comparison of the net octroi income with that of the previous year affords considerable interest in view of the prediction that the new accounts system, in spite of the free grant of refunds, would increase the revenue of municipalities. That it had this result in the United Provinces is, it is believed, an established fact. The figures given below for the main municipalities of the province exhibit a comparison between the year under report and the previous year in respect of both gross and net octroi receipts:— Taxation.

Receipts from octroi.

	+ more, − less than last year's figures.	
	Gross.	*Net.*
	Rs.	Rs.
Delhi	+ 908	− 7,197
Simla	− 19,712	+ 4,387
Lahore	+ 44,916	+ 9,066
Amritsar	+ 30,544	− 23,487
Siálkot	+ 21,580	+ 16,094
Ráwalpindi	+ 224	− 41,797
Multán	+ 6,902	+ 13,765

The diversity of these figures makes it difficult to form any safe opinion regarding the financial effects of the new system on one year's returns but the very large amount of refunds granted in Amritsar and Ráwalpindi would *primâ facie* seem to indicate that the schedules worked upon need careful scrutiny and possibly revision. Excluding the hill municipalities, the incidence of taxation per head exceeded Rs. 2 in 12 municipalities. In Lahore it was Rs. 2-12-0, in Delhi Rs. 2-1-6, in Amritsar Rs. 2-3-0, and in Ráwalpindi Rs. 3-5-10. In the hill municipalities the incidence was naturally very much higher except in Dharmsála, which has hardly begun its fresh existence since the earthquake.

78. The Examiner of Local Funds Accounts reports that a general improvement is noticeable in the financial administration of municipalities. This improvement is the result of the greater interest taken by municipal commissioners, and also to the fact that the impovements in pay have attracted a better class of employés and to the more efficient check and control over business methods. The introduction of provident funds should tend still further to improve the status of this class of employé. The accounts of 79 municipalities and notified areas have been audited during the year, involving a check of the accounts for the three years—1903 to 1906—in each case. Serious irregularities were revealed in the accounts of the Rohtak, Ludhiána, Nárowál, Kila Sobha Singh, Lyallpur and Akálgarh municipalities, and Daud, Begowál and Khangah Dográn notified areas. Audit.

79. Health in municipalities was generally good, except for plague which was prevalent throughout the province and exhibited particular virulence in the district of Jullundur. The Ludhiána water-works scheme, estimated to cost over 4 lakhs of rupees, has made considerable progress, and the Amritsar-Patti Railway has been opened. A conservancy tramway at Lahore is nearing completion, and two mono-rail projects are under contemplation in the Ambála district. General.

26. Military (Volunteers).

Strength and distribution of Volunteer Forces.

80. The Strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1907 is reported to have been as follows :—

Corps.	Company.	Station.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficients.	Sergeant Instructors.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	4
	A	Lahore	10	9	78	97	65	...
	B	Ambála	2	7	38	47	43	...
	C	Ráwalpindi	2	6	56	64	41	...
	D	Peshawar	1	3	21	25	21	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	48	49	49	...
		Add for Supernumerary Officers	4	...	...	4	...	...
		Total	29	25	241	295	228	4
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	10	...	...	10	10	11
	A B C & Cadet ½ Com- pany,	Lahore	16	40	215	271	257	...
	D	Ráwalpindi	4	11	100	115	112	...
	E	Amritsar	2	6	31	39	39	...
	F	Delhi	3	7	47	57	57	...
	G & H	Murree	4	16	107	127	124	...
	I	Peshawar	1	8	38	47	45	...
	K	Ferozepore	1	8	61	70	66	...
	L	Srinagar	3	7	30	40	39	...
	L. Sec.	Siálkot	...	2	13	15	15	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	69	69	69	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	26	...	...	26	...	...
		Total	70	105	711	886	833	11
Simla Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	3
	A	Simla	3	7	23	33	31	...
	B		3	11	88	102	92	...
	C		2	7	52	61	58	...
	D		3	8	44	55	53	...
	E		3	11	81	95	92	...
	F	Kasauli	2	8	111	121	121	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Officers	8	...	...	8	...	...
		Total	33	52	399	484	456	3
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	10
	A	Karáchi Cantonment	2	6	41	49	48	...
	B	Multán	3	9	114	126	125	...
	C	Lahore	15	18	193	226	221	...
	D	Lahore	3	11	80	94	87	...
	E	Ambála	1	10	68	79	77	...
	F	Saháranpur	4	13	115	132	130	...
	G	Kotri	2	8	69	79	79	...
	H	Lahore	2	16	82	100	98	...
	I	Quetta	4	12	62	78	76	...
	K	Ráwalpindi	1	18	121	140	138	...
	L	Sukkar	8	12	101	121	120	...
	M	Karáchi City	...	6	60	66	65	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Members	9	...	...	9	...	...
		Total	63	139	1,106	1,308	1,273	10

Inspections.

81. The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifle Corps and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in March 1907 and the Simla Volunteer Rifles in October 1906. The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

Agriculture.—(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1906.

(2) Annual Report of the Experimental Farm, Lyallpur, for the autumn and spring harvests 1905-06.

(3) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1907.

(4) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1906-07.

(5) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1906.

(6) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1907.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the Meteorology and Climatology of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1906-07.

Horticulture.—Annual Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1907.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1906-07.

Arboriculture.—Progress Report on the Arboriculture in the Punjab for the triennial period 1903-04 to 1905-06.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Reports on the working of the Dandot Colliery for the half-years ending 30th June 1906 and 31st December 1905.

(2) Statement showing the produce of minerals and gems for the calendar year 1906.

Manufactures.—Report on the working of the Factories Act during the year 1906.

Trade.—(1) Report on the Internal Land Trade of the Punjab for the year ending March 31st, 1907.

(2) Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

(3) Report by the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies on the working of the Joint Stock Companies in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

Irrigation.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department in the Punjab for the year ending 31st March 1907.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Agricuture.—Prices and Wages in India, 23rd issue, 1906.

Weather and Crops.—Agricultural Statistics of India, 22nd issue, Tables 3-H, 4-H, 7, 7-A and 10-E.

Mines and Quarries.—Records of Geological Survey of India, Vol. XXXIII, part I,

Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1906.

Manufactures.—Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 11th issue, Table XIX.

Financial and Commercial Statistics, 13th issue, sections XXI Cotton Mills and XXVIII Sundry Industries.

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the calendar year 1906.

Trade.—Accounts of the trade carried by rail and river in India, 18th issue.]

27. Agriculture.

Agricultural Department.

82. The year under report has been in the main spent on preliminary operations and the general organization of the department. At the Lyallpur college, the Principal has been engaged in preparing a curriculum for the college course, which it is hoped to start by the 1st of July 1908. The European staff has recently been completed by the appointment of an expert in botany, and proposals have been laid before the Government of India since the close of the year for the recruitment of Assistant Professors including experts in entomology and mycology. The conduct of the general branch has fallen mainly on the Deputy Director, who has, in addition to experiments regarding improved seeds, exotic cotton, and sugarcane, devoted much time to the investigation of the causes of the prevalence of alkali in canal-irrigated tracts. In this inquiry, which should lead to valuable results, he has had the assistance of the recently appointed agricultural chemist. The subordinate staff of Assistant Superintendent of Farms and Agricultural Assistants has not yet been fully organized, though preparations for recruitment are going on, and several stipendiary candidates are now receiving instruction at Cawnpore. The eastern circle of the province has not yet been constituted.

Experimental farms.

83. The conditions of the year were not favourable to the experiments at the Lyallpur farm. The failure of the cotton crop and the heavy and unseasonable rains affected the work there very prejudicially. At Sargodha the efforts of the Colonization Officer to popularise improved varieties of seed met with a considerable measure of success. A programme of experiments was drawn up, which, under the expert guidance of the new Principal, should produce thoroughly reliable results. In view of the change effected in the administration, the acquisition of the extra area of 200 acres, which are to be added to the station, has been postponed until the coming year.

Purchases of cotton seed were made from the farm by the Deputy Director for outside sowings. All the remaining seed available was issued to the Colony grantees, who have shown an eager appreciation of its merits, as is evidenced by the increased sales. In all, 258 maunds of cotton seed and 358 maunds of wheat seed grown on the farm were issued from the store. These figures are a substantial advance on those reported last year. Seven reaping machines were employed in the two colonies for demonstration purposes. The types were two—self-delivery and manual-delivery machines. The former type is really too heavy and complicated in its present form for our purposes. Of the latter type only one was purchased and after a preliminary trial this was hired out to a prominent grantee living near Lyallpur. He was so satisfied with it that after two or three days' experience he asked permission to purchase it, which was accorded. The success of this fairly light, simple machine, worked without extraneous assistance throughout the harvest, has excited much curiosity among the Chenab Colony zamindars, and it is intended to import at least 20 similar machines for private purchasers next year. A really satisfactory thresher and winnower has not yet been discovered.

Agricultural operations in the districts.

84. There was a considerable expansion in both the large colonies in the area under acclimatised American cotton, 1,650 acres were sown, but in spite of the special efforts made by the Canal Department to supply sufficient water the outturn was only $2\frac{1}{4}$ maunds per acre. The price realised was good, being Re. 1-6-0 per maund above that of the indigenous variety. In the opinion of the British Cotton Growing Association and Messrs. Ralli Bros. the samples were little better than ordinary 'Bengals', but the Muir Mills, Cawnpore, and other firms considered the cotton well worth the price realised. Small experiments with Egyptian cotton were made in various districts. In Hissar they were not a success, but in Miánwáli and Muzaffargarh the outturn was excellent, and it would certainly appear that the Egyptian varieties are well worth further trials in the south-western districts of the Province.

Punjab Veterinary College.

85. The receipts of the Lahore Veterinary College show an increase of Rs. 2,000, chiefly in fees, but there was also a heavy rise (Rs. 11,000) in contingent expenditure. The canine ward brought in Rs. 800. 118

students were admitted and 287 remained at the close of the year as compared with 215 in the preceding one. The educational qualifications of the students admitted were good, including knowledge of English in 85 cases as against 26 last year. 63 candidates passed the final examination out of 78, a percentage of 80, and all the graduated students obtained employment. The percentage of success in the other two classes was 90 and 89, respectively. It is interesting to observe that over 60 per cent. of the students are Muhammadans. A new clinic for out-patients was constructed during the year, and further improvements are in course of completion. Attempts were made to obtain a first class farrier for the forge, but have not yet been successful.

Civil Veterinary Department.

86. In the administration of the Civil Veterinary Department the most notable feature of the year was the formation of a new circle including the North-West Frontier Province; but the advantages of the new arrangement have been seriously discounted by the inability of the department to supply properly qualified officers to the 3rd Circle. A scheme for reorganising the cadre and work of Veterinary Assistants was worked out, and sanctioned. It is intended to replace the itinerating Assistant at each tahsil by a stationary one, leaving one Assistant to tour through the whole district. The proposed system is no doubt open to the objection that it is difficult to bring in sick animals to the tahsil for treatment, but it was thought that this objection is more than counterbalanced by the ease, with which it will be possible to secure the services of the Tahsil Assistant on the occasion of neighbouring outbreaks. The Local Government has made an assignment of one lakh of rupees per annum for five years to district boards to be spent on Veterinary objects.

Deaths from contagious disease (in non-selected districts) among equines fell from 135 to 38, the only noticeable outbreak being one of 'surra' in Montgomery. The number of recorded deaths among bovines on the other hand rose from 10,000 to 17,000. Rinderpest was rife in Karnál, Kángra, Ferozepore and Montgomery, and carried off almost 8,000 animals in the province as compared with 4,000 last year. There was also a large rise in the deaths from hæmorrhagic septicæmia, and black-quarter destroyed over 1,100 head of cattle. A vigorous campaign of preventive inoculation, attended by a considerable measure of success, was carried on against the three diseases last mentioned, the number of animals so treated rising from fifty-seven thousand to one hundred and ten thousand.

Condition of cattle.

87. The districts of the Delhi division are still suffering from the effects of last year's fodder famine. From Hissar it is pointed out that the great losses in bullocks and cows occasioned by the famines of 1896-97 and 1899-1900 have not yet been made good. In the settlement of 1890-91 the figure for these two classes was 536,598: it is now 164,090 or less by more than $\frac{2}{3}$rds. In Gurgaon the condition of cattle has much improved since last year: in Delhi the numbers of cattle are believed to be still below normal, the district not having fully recovered from the cycle of lean years which began in 1895-96. In Karnál the drought of last year has reduced the head of young stock. The supply of fodder was ample, and putting aside the deaths from disease, noted in the last paragraph, cattle were in good condition throughout the province. The prospects for next year are far from promising, as the failure of the monsoon has caused great scarcity, especially in the Delhi division.

Agricultural pests.

88. The following measures were undertaken with a view to the extermination of the boll-worm (earias insulana), to the ravages of which the disastrous failure of the cotton crop last year was mainly ascribed. All standing cotton crops were burned and all cotton fields ploughed up in December and January. The bhindi (hibiscus esculentus) was cultivated as a trap crop, and an attempt was made to reintroduce the boll-worm's parasite (Rhogas Lefroyi). The sowing of the trap crop on which the greatest reliance was placed was only a very partial success, and the boxes of parasitised boll-worms were received too late in the season to be used to the best advantage. Of the 14 districts affected last year 6 escaped. In the remaining 8 the boll-worm

appeared early in the season and the first buds and pickings were lost. The situation improved steadily after the fall of satisfactory rain in September. The boll-worm gradually disappeared and later pickings were fairly satisfactory.

At the beginning of the cold weather large swarms of locusts which deposited eggs in various districts threatened a calamity as serious as that suffered by the province in 1891-92, but, fortunately, the low temperatures of the spring and heavy rains retarded the hatching out of the young insects, and when they did emerge the spring crops had advanced too far towards maturity to be much affected by their attacks. The Imperial Entomologist himself visited the province and carried out experiments with artificial methods for the destruction of hoppers. The most effective of these was a soap and water solution of the same kind as is used in German East Africa, but the final conclusion was that expense must prohibit the use of artificial means, and that the simpler methods of destroying the eggs and trapping the young insects are the most satisfactory, especially when it is necessary to work over an extended area.

Loans to agriculturists.

89. Rupees 1,90,000 were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. 9,97,000 under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, increases of Rs. 14,000 and Rs. 6,17,000 respectively. The large increase under the latter Act was due to the conditions of scarcity prevailing in the Delhi division, the three districts of Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon receiving between them 5½ lakhs. The new and simplified procedure introduced at the instance of the Government of India for facilitating the distribution of loans has been of the greatest assistance in enabling the staff to deal promptly with the applications.

Co-operative credit societies.

90. The report on the working of co-operative credit societies covers a period of 15 months ending with the 30th of June 1907, and marks a distinct advance in the operations of the Registrar and his staff. During the periods dealt with in the two previous reports the experiment of co-operative banking was in its most rudimentary stage. The first report was one of preliminary organisation and of expectations. In the second considerable progress was reported, but it was impossible to forecast how far the results merely represented a fleeting curiosity regarding the latest experiment of Government, and whether the success of the movement was likely to be transitory, or permanent and substantial. Of the 151 societies which had been registered in March 1906, the bulk had come into official existence within two months of the close of the year, and it was not known how far they were mere paper societies, whose operations depended upon adventitious assistance from Government agencies. Of the 328 societies now enrolled, 174 or more than half are in full working order, and with a capital of Rs. 2,85,000 were able to show profits, after in many cases only 18 months' working, of over Rs. 26,000. Of the capital raised during the period (Rs. 2,37,000), Rs. 85,500 were contributions towards shares, Rs. 93,000 represented deposits and Rs. 43,000 were advances by Government or Sir D. Hamilton. Rupees 2,60,000 were lent by societies, and Rs. 60,000 lent were repaid.

There are signs that where the co-operative credit movement has taken root, the charges of the village money-lender are becoming more fair and reasonable. The experience gained points to the advisability of restricting the areas in which the societies operate. There is no spontaneous desire to found caste or tribal organisations. Even the village is in many cases too large a unit for really successful work, and a sub-division of a village, in which every man knows the most minute detail of every other man's financial position and moral character, is the most promising field for a new society. This being so, the great question is which type is to be selected as the best suited for the needs of the province. The conditions vary enormously, but there appears to be one system which is pre-eminently the best. Of the 174 active societies, 100 are working on it, and it is adapted from that popularised in Italy by Signor Luzzati. In this the members become share-holders by payment of ten compulsory annual instalments. No dividends are declared for ten years, when three quarters of the profits are divided among the share-holders, the remaining

fourth being transferred to the reserve fund, which is made available for the general purposes of the society. These societies usually lend at about 9 per cent. and pay 5 per cent. on fixed deposits. Under this system, which was devised by the pioneers of Gurdáspur, every member has a palpable interest in the society's success, and the prospect of obtaining after ten years what is looked upon in the light of a pension is reported to appeal with great force to the Punjabi peasant. Experience points to the elimination of two types which do not appear likely to become popular, one that in which the society depends mainly on the deposits or credit of the wealthier members, and the other evolved in Miánwáli for the formation of capital by small grain deposits. The latter offers no inducement to the capital of the richer, while in the former true co-operation is entirely lacking, the weaker brethren being financed by the philanthropy of the more wealthy.

Prices.

91. Although prices have in most cases ruled easier than last year, they are still generally above normal level. The price of wheat has dropped to normal or below normal only in the northernmost districts, which have reported an excellent harvest. It shows a decline in all the districts of the Delhi division excepting Simla and Ambála, but this is by far the least important wheat tract of the Province. In 13 districts there has been an actual advance and for this the reason must be sought in the unsatisfactory yield of the late harvest. Barley generally shows very little divergence from last year's prices. The extensive sowings of jowar* affected the price favourably, and there was a sharp fall in practically every district but Multán. Most districts report a satisfactory fall in the price of maize, but Kángra and Hoshiárpur are exceptions. The price of gram has shown a marked rise in 6 districts, on account of the damage done by the seasonal calamities of the early spring. Rapeseed is an exception to the general tendency towards decline. Its price is appreciably higher everywhere partly owing to the comparatively poor yield of the spring crop. The fall in sugar rates indicates a return to normal conditions of cultivation and a further recovery from the injury inflicted on cane by the frost of 1905. Prices for cotton were easier and reflect the improvement in the crop due to its partial immunity from boll-worm attacks.

28. Weather and Crops.

The annual rains.

92. The spring showers of February and March 1906 were general and sufficient for early autumn sowings. The monsoon current reached the Eastern Punjab in the third week of June, giving a fair amount of rain in the Delhi division and submontane districts until about the 10th July, when a somewhat prolonged break occurred. A second period of rainy weather at the end of July and in the first half of August was mainly confined again to the Delhi division and the adjoining districts of Hoshiárpur and Ludhiána. Another lengthy break ensued in the Delhi division up to the end of August As regards the rest of the Punjab, fairly satisfactory showers fell in July in the districts of Ráwalpindi, Gujrát and Miánwáli. In the remaining districts there was a considerable deficiency of moisture in that month. In August well-distributed rain, good to average in quantity, was registered in the districts of Jullundur, Ludhiána, Amritsar, Gurdáspur and Siálkot. In the hill districts of Simla and Kángra the precipitation was abnormally heavy; but other districts had to wait until the third or even fourth week of the month for good rain. September made amends for all previous deficiencies, the rainfall in the first fortnight being largely in excess everywhere and in some localities causing a certain amount of damage to the standing crops. The Multán division alone was excluded from participation in this rainfall, but was compensated by high river floods and a late and abundant flow of water in the inundation canals. The months of October and November were, as usual, rainless: and no rain was registered in the Punjab until the 18th and 19th December when maximum falls of over $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the submontane districts and minimum falls of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ inch in the Delhi and Multán divisions were recorded. Four districts, however—Rohtak, Karnál, Jhang and Lyallpur—received no rain. A storm which visited the Province on the 8th January was succeeded by occasional light showers during the last week of the month,

*Jowar: millet.

The distribution of these left Shahpur and the south-west districts untouched. The rains received in February were generally abnormal and excessive. In some cases considerable damage to the standing crops in low-lying lands was reported, but the distribution was somewhat capricious. The showers in the Delhi division were not beyond the needs of the situation, but very heavy falls were reported from the Jullundur and Ráwalpindi divisions. Few districts escaped the abnormal precipitations which occurred so unseasonably in March; and in April, after a brief hot spell in the early part of the month, rain again set in with serious detriment to the ripening crops which had already been affected by the cloudy weather of the preceding months. The mischief was aggravated by occasional showers in May when the harvest was ready for the sickle. Summing up, it may be said that in comparison with the average nearly every district received an excess rainfall. In the cases of many districts, especially the submontane, the excess was considerable. In the Kángra and Simla districts it amounted to as much as 58 and 40 inches respectively. In Delhi, Karnál, Ferozepore, Amritsar and the south-western districts there was a slight deficiency on the average.

The autumn harvest.

93. The area placed under autumn crops amounted to 10,921,823 acres, an advance on the previous year of 3 per cent. but less by 8 per cent. than the quinquennial average. More extensive sowings would have taken place in the Central Punjab but for the late arrival of the monsoon in that tract, the extensive area under spring crops in 1905-06 and the apprehended recurrence of cotton boll-worm. The increase of cultivated area was entirely on unirrigated lands and mainly in the Delhi division which benefited greatly by the excellent rains. The area of failed crops shrank from 4,374,820 acres to 1,637,654 acres. Ferozepore returned the lowest autumn figures recorded for years: and similarly Siálkot is reported to have had the smallest autumn harvest known during the currency of the present settlement. Cotton sowings were 5 per cent. below the normal on the whole provincial area. Expanded cultivation of this staple in the Delhi and Jullundur divisions was more than counterbalanced by the contractions elsewhere. The areas placed under jowar* and bajra* show an enormous increase over last year's figures, mainly in the Delhi division, and the outturns were generally good in consequence of the beneficial rain in August and early September. The yield of rice was above the normal, the only considerable deficiency being in Kángra and due to excessive rain. Considering the large area sown bajra was rather disappointing. Maize suffered in the submontane districts from the excessive rain. Sugarcane did well everywhere. Cotton shewed a great improvement on the preceding year, when it was 46 per cent. below normal. Irrigated cotton was again attacked by boll-worm, but rallied after the September rains, and pickings continued later than usual owing to the exceptionally mild winter.

The spring harvest.

94. For the spring crop 18,953,672 acres were sown as against 17,541,060 acres last year. The figures are 27 per cent. above the normal area: and the expansion is attributable to the favourable conditions as regards moisture at sowing time and to the restriction of the previous cotton sowings. In some cases, too, where a failure of the standing cotton seemed imminent, land was hastily ploughed up and sown again. The increase in the sown unirrigated area amounted to 1,648,661 acres: but, as in the case of the autumn crop, the irrigated area showed a contraction. This is to be explained by the nature of the season. The area returned as failed rose slightly from 2,008,316 acres to 2,242,775; oilseeds, gram and wheat being mainly responsible for the increase. The area under wheat was 26 per cent. and that under oilseeds 32 per cent. above the quinquennial average. In spite of the promising outlook the results were disappointing. Wheat suffered severely from the unseasonable rains and winds. The damage done to the grain which was light and shrivelled was not fully realised until it had been threshed. Despite the expansion in the area cropped the total gross produce of the wheat harvest was only 97 per cent. of the normal and as much as 32 per cent. below last year's figures. Barley suffered much less than wheat in most districts and was on the whole above the normal. The gross produce of (spring) oilseeds was 137 per cent. above

*Two kinds of millet.

the normal. Allowing for the excess in area sown over the quinquennial average the yield of the crop must be considered to be disappointing except in the case of toria (*brassica campestris*), which did well.

Irrigation.

95. The vast bulk of the area irrigated in the Province is watered by Government canals, and apart from the statistics compiled to show areas irrigated by private canals and tanks no other data as to the numbers of these works are collected. Irrigation from tanks is unimportant. Compared with the figures for 1901-02 the number of masonry wells in use has risen by 108 and of non-masonry wells decreased by 10,748. This latter phenomenon is, of course, explained by the wet nature of the season. The proportion of the irrigated to the total cropped area in the province is 36 per cent., the figures showing a shrinkage of 711,149 acres when compared with last year, as the copious rains enabled the cultivators to dispense largely with artificial irrigation.

29. Horticulture and Arboriculture.

Horticulture.

96. During the year the management of the Mahasu orchards has been entrusted to the Forest Department. In the Lahore Agri-Horticultural Gardens there was a surplus on the year's working of Rs. 2,500. Expenditure fell from Rs. 39,000 to Rs. 35,000, concurrently with a large rise in the proceeds of the sale of garden produce. In consequence of this improved working the accumulated savings account was left untouched, and special Government assistance was confined to a grant of Rs. 3,000 for minor works. The new lawns and reclaimed corners in various parts of the gardens gave opportunity for much tree and shrub planting. A number of unsightly banks have also been screened by suitable hedges. These, generally, are flourishing. With a view to the subsequent establishment of an orchard, in which will be concentrated all the species and varieties of fruits in the gardens, extensive plantings of young trees have been taken in hand.

Fruit acclimatisation.

97. The attempt in the Dera Gházi Khan district to acclimatise date palms obtained from Makran appears doomed to failure. Only 6 out of 25 plants are in existence. Mediterranean oranges imported three years ago into Gujránwála are reported to be doing well and their fruit to be a great improvement on that of the old stock of Maltas, which show signs of deterioration.

Arboriculture.

98. A report is issued on Arboriculture every three years, and will be due next year. Great efforts are being made to extend the planting of avenues, and a substantial portion of the grant-in-aid to district boards is being devoted to this object.

30. Forests.

Area.

99. The area in charge of the Forest Department has been reduced by 30,857 acres during the past year, chiefly by transfer to the Colonization Department, or disforestation on account of the new colonies. Further areas are still to be given up for the same purpose. The new Pír Mahal Plantation of 45,000 acres in the Chenab Colony will be a valuable addition to the reserved forests of the province and go some way to compensate for the losses caused by the extension of irrigation.

Settlements.

100. In the Multán divison 74 square miles of unclassed forest have been settled under chapter IV of the Forest Act, and the settlement as reserved forest of 70 square miles of forests of various classes in the Chenab Colony has been commenced in order that the Pír Mahal Plantation may be created. The settlement of the proposed reserves, 15 square miles in area, of the Tera and other rakhs in the Lahore division, as well as of the 205 square miles of the jagir forests in Kángra and of the Pabar leased forests in Bashahr, are still pending.

Demarcation.

11. The total length of artificially demarcated boundaries is 10,865 miles, being an increase of 20 miles over the length demarcated at the close of the previous year. The expenditure on new works was Rs. 289, and on repairs

Rs. 3,244, being Rs. 352 and Rs. 1,458, respectively, less than that of the previous year. There has been a great deal of tampering with boundary marks in the Kángra and Bashahr divisions, and much labour will be required to put them right. In Multán too there is much redemarcation to be done in the Mailsi Range. It is feared that in the province generally the demarcation question requires considerable attention in order that it may be brought into a satisfactory state.

Surveys.

102. A boundary survey of 365 miles was made in the Pabar range of the Bashahr division on the 4" scale. There are now 4,805 square miles of forests remaining unsurveyed in the province, of which the greater part cannot be taken up until it has been decided what area is to be abandoned for the new irrigation colonies, while the rest is not of sufficient importance to require a detailed survey.

Forest offences.

103. The number of forest offences is 9 per cent. above the average of the last three years, the increase being mainly in illegal fellings and removals of forest produce, and in grazing offences. It is probably correct to ascribe this increase in part at any rate to the extension of cultivation that accompanies the growing prosperity of the country and to improved supervision. Considering the temptations that exist for the fabrication of false cases by the subordinate staff, the percentage (81) of convictions is high and appears to indicate careful supervision over prosecutions.

Protection from fire.

104. The area which the department attempted to protect rose by 32,605 acres to 587,945 acres. Of this only 2,829 acres were burnt over, the percentage of failures thus being 0·48 as compared with 3·72 in the previous year. The total cost of protection was Rs. 5,046 against Rs. 4,821 in 1905-06, and the cost per square mile successfully protected was Rs. 5-8-4 as against Rs. 5-12-0 last year. Of the total sum spent, Rs. 2,351 was devoted to the clearing of fire-lines and Rs. 2,695 to the pay of fire-watchers. The successful results attained are unquestionably due rather to the favourable season, which was a very wet one with much snow in the early spring and rain during April and May, than to improved protective arrangements.

Protection from cattle.

105. The difficulty of protecting forests from damage by agricultural animals is increasing owing to the growing profits of pastoral farming. Flocks of sheep and goats have largely increased, and it will be no simple matter to strike a fair balance between the immediate interests of the people on the one hand and those of forest conservancy on the other.

Protection against injuries from natural causes.

106. Locusts did considerable damage in the Ráwalpindi, Jhelum, Chenab, Shahpur, and Multán divisions. In Jhelum the only tree which they did not attack was the *Melia Azedarack*. In Ráwalpindi the *Pinus excelsa* has been dying in a very sudden manner, it is believed, on account of an insect attack, but this does not seem to be certain; four insects which may be responsible have been sent to Dehra Dún for identification. In Kulu it has been ascertained that the fungus which is killing the deodar poles near Monali, and which has now been noticed in Rupi and elsewhere, does not spread from the young shoots, so that it is probably a root disease. Further observations are being made, and the trees attacked are being removed A fungus has also been found to attack the deodar in Bashahr, and it may be that this is similar to that which has appeared in Kulu. The *Trametes pini* appears to be spreading in the Simla hills, having been noticed even in the catchment-area forest in Simla. It is being cut out there, but it is a difficult thing to deal with in the Native States. So far as the Kot Khái forests are concerned, no action has been taken, from a mistaken view of the situation; but the trees will now be cut out, observations being made in order to ascertain to what distance the disease spreads from infected trees. The mulberry defoliator continued to do much damage in Chánga Mánga as did that of the sissu tree until the first rain fell.

Sylviculture.

107. The efforts previously reported of trying to improve the reproduction of deodar by breaking up the soil continue to be attended with success in Bashahr, and to some extent in Chamba also; this system seems to be suitable to those forests in which the seeds are prevented by a layer of undecomposed

vegetable matter from germinating sufficiently near the mineral soil. Eucalyptus has been found unable to stand the cold of Simla or to bear the weight of snow in the hill divisions. The attempt to grow English fruit in Bashahr has almost entirely failed.

Exploitation.

108. It is satisfactory to remark that the share in the exploitation of forest produce taken by the department has declined. Only 11 per cent. of the timber and 47 per cent. of the fuel cut was dealt with by departmental agency in the past year. The total timber outturn fell nominally by 52 per cent. as compared with the preceding year, but the registration of fellings in Chamba was defective. The other reasons given for the fall are scarcity of labour and the consequent failure of purchasers to remove timber sold in Bashahr, and the cessation of earthquake relief work. Increased imports of Australian and other woods used for sleepers have also had their effect, and there is reason to suspect that inferior imported woods are being passed off as deodar. The fuel outturn decreased by 18 per cent. owing to the want of animal transport in the Multán division, the shortage of railway wagons for removal of the produce of Chánga Mánga, and the decline in the demand for wood fuel, which is being gradually superseded by coal in many directions. The large railway and canal works in progress in the Multán division should revive the demand for fuel for brick-making in the current year.

Financial results.

109. The income of the department has declined by 12 per cent. and now stands at Rs. 15,65,000 This is a necessary result of the decrease of production already noticed. In Kulu there was the additional reason that owing to the low state of the Beas the amount of timber in transit was much larger than usual. Expenditure also has decreased. It amounts to Rs. 11,57,429 or about 9 per cent. less than last year. The chief reasons for this fall are the withdrawal of the department from the work of exploitation and the smaller payment made to the Raja of Chamba. The net result is that the profits of year, Rs. 4,07,571, are less than those of 1905-06 by Rs. 1,03,131. The Conservator anticipates a further fall in receipts from sale of timber for a few years to come owing to the competition of Australian sleepers and the dishonest practice already alluded to of mixing inferior woods with deodar, to which may be added the probable decline in the demand for wood as fuel owing to the competition of coal. With the probability that the rate of wages will continue to be high in the Punjab for some years to come, it is inevitable that the provincial surplus will show a further decline in the immediate future.

31. Mines and Quarries.

Gold.

110 Small quantities of gold to the value of about Rs. 11,000 were obtained from washings in the Indus, Jhelum, and Sutlej, where they issue from the hills.

Coal.

111. There were eleven coal mines working in the province, which employed 2,522 persons and produced 73,119 tons of coal as compared with 62,622 tons last year. The only mine of any importance is that worked by the North-Western Railway at Dhandot in the Jhelum district. This yielded 43,662 tons of coal. Although a small loss is shown in the working of the second part of the year, this is only a nominal book loss due to the low rate of issue, and the working was profitable to the railway.

Salt.

112. The mines and quarries in the Shahpur, Jhelum and Miánwáli districts produced 118,023 tons of salt and employed on the average 1,170 persons daily.

Limestone and slate.

113. One thousand tons of limestone were extracted in the Hoshiárpur district and 2,173 tons of slate in the Gurgaon district.

32. Manufactories.

Large industries.

114. There are now 235 factories registered under the Act as compared with 225 last year and 191 in 1904. Of the total, 15 are Government factories and the rest private. There has been an increase of 4 cotton-ginning factories in Ferozepore and of 6 in Multán. Forty-eight of these factories

remained closed during the year, most of them being cotton gins and presses, which could not obtain enough raw material owing to the failure of the crop in two successive years. In the Lyallpur district matters were especially bad, for there 18 out of 22 ginning factories remained closed. The 4 which remained open shared profits with those which were closed. There were some factories at work during the year which are not included in the returns, as a factory cannot be registered until it has worked four months in one year. There has been a slight falling off in the number of operatives employed: the most marked decrease is in Lahore, where the workmen were less by 700 than in 1905.

General condition of factories.

115. Fifty-six factories were inspected once, 48 factories twice, and 60 factories more than twice during the year. Of the 71 factories which were not inspected at all, 48 were closed throughout the year, so that only 23 factories, which ought to have been inspected, were neglected, and most of these were at work for only a short period at the end of the year. The Director of Land Records and his two Personal Assistants were appointed Inspectors of Factories and they visited 18 factories. The sanitary conditions of factories are generally reported to be satisfactory, the water-supply sufficient and the ventilation adequate. The health of the operatives is good. The wages are higher than those earned by the agricultural labourer and the workers are content with their condition. Of the 26,875 persons employed 3,395 were women and 1,150 children. From four districts infringements of the law regarding women and children are reported. There were three prosecutions under the Act. As against 242 in 1905, 279 accidents occurred, of which 9 were fatal and 32 serious.

The factories labour committee visited Delhi from the 18th to the 21st February 1907. All the mills were inspected and the evidence of operatives, millowners, managers and workers taken. Definite suggestions were made in the report as to inspection and more especially medical inspection, certificates, hours of labour, the improvement of the homes and home surroundings of the mill hands, and the securing of uniformity of administration of the Factory Act throughout India.

Carpet making.

116. An interesting monograph on carpet making in the province has been written by Mr. Latimer, Assistant Commissioner. It shows that in 1897-98, when a separate head was first given by the Government of India in the trade figures for Punjab carpets and rugs, the values in exports were Rs. 3,10,275, and, for inter-provincial trade, Rs. 77,050. The output for export increased with enormous rapidity, and the increase was practically all in the Amritsar trade, till the figures for exports reached in the year 1899-1900 the sum of Rs. 8,56,740. In the two following years the trade increased; the number of maunds exported went up to 5,670. Not only had the existing firms at Amritsar increased their output, but new factories sprang into existence. This sudden extension of trade was unnatural; it coincided with the production of much inferior work, and the trade has now shrunk to very much smaller proportions. The last figures available show exports from the province at Rs. 5,03,982. The causes of the fall are probably to be found in the fact that bad workmanship was found out, that the market was flooded, and that many of the manufacturers lost large sums in advances to their employees. Whatever the causes, the result has been that the number of manufacturers in Amritsar has decreased, and that their output has decreased in an even greater degree. The carpet trade in that city—almost entirely an export one—seems now, however, to be stable; it is to be hoped at any rate that it has reached a natural and secure position. Several of the firms are expanding by opening branch factories, though this represents to some extent not so much a real expansion as the desire to find cheaper labour. In taste the work has probably improved during the past few years, and it is certainly not worse in this respect than when the weaving of carpets of Persian design was revived by the jails. The internal trade of the province has been almost stationary since the time when first it was separately recorded, and the evidence which would suggest that the carpets made for a local market have seriously deteriorated either in quality or taste is

probably, as far as the Punjab is concerned, of little weight. It must be admitted, however, that the introduction of aniline dyes has been an evil, though perhaps not an unmixed one. In fact, if we frankly recognise the trade for what it is, there seems to be no ground for sentimental lamentation, still less for denunciation. The era of great productions has gone by, because the circumstances that made them possible have gone too. In the Punjab, as in Persia, that era was an era of patronage, and when it passed, the industry it had fostered dwindled to insignificant proportions. The jails have given it fresh vitality under a modern form, with the public instead of a patron to support it, and we should rather be thankful to have it in any guise than complain that it has not been revived in a form which from the nature of things was impossible. Its future as an art industry rests mainly in the hands of the public. The Government of India was asked some years ago to intervene to prevent the use of aniline dyes, and the Government of the United States of America has interfered by prohibiting the import of jail made carpets. In point of fact it is not such intervention that is desirable. Any action by Government should be an extension of that already taken in this country, the foundation of schools of art and the careful supervision of the industry in the jails. In this way it is possible to ensure that at least somewhere in the country good materials shall be woven into suitable designs. If, after all, the public will not have them, Government can do nothing beyond.

33. Trade.

TRADE WITH OTHER PROVINCES AND STATES IN INDIA.

Total trade.

1117. The report is a triennial one. Excluding animals and treasure the total volume of trade is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1904-05	24,402,169	17,41,60,637	52,648,111	18,65,51,449
1905-06	34,265,921	22,08,16,773	43,175,245	18,36,15,749
1906-07	28,696,430	22,37,04,458	54,837,968	21,88,30,406

The figures for exports reflect the agricultural conditions of the years, the poor crops of 1905 being marked in the decline in the middle year and the excellent crops of 1906 being followed by record exports. The increase of 29 lakhs in the value of the imports is very satisfactory as it has been obtained notwithstanding the slackening of the abnormal imports of sugar which in 1905-06 were 75 lakhs of rupees above the imports of the year under report. Increases in the consumption of piece-goods, apparel, gunny-bags, ghi and kerosine oil all point to increased purchasing power in the people. The fall in the weight of the imports is of little account as it occurs chiefly in bulky goods, such as coal (—12 lakhs of maunds) and railway materials (—18 lakhs of maunds). If we compare the total trade of the three years under report with that of the preceding triennium we find that there has been an increase in weight of 49 per cent. in

exports and of 29 per cent. in imports and in value of 39 per cent. in exports and 34 per cent. in imports. The traffic in "Grain and Pulse" by rail and river is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1904-05	1,193,688	37,02,575	42,284,271	9,35,57,701
1905-06	1,887,188	66,58,215	33,221,977	9,17,25,269
1906-07	1,281,101	46,47,519	44,612,716	11,99,50,457

These figures merely emphasize the fact that the Punjab export trade is mainly one of food-grains and that a prosperous year brings a reduction in the import of food stuffs.

Trade in animals and treasure.

118. The trade in animals shews a slight decrease in both exports and imports, but the only important detail is the falling-off in the number of horses brought from Bombay. The imports of treasure are less by about 50 lakhs and the exports by about 40 lakhs than in the preceding year. The total figures for treasure are—

	Rs.
Imports	3,38,94,394
Exports	1,44,81,652

Thus, as was to be expected in a year of good exports of grain, the imports of treasure far exceed the exports, but it is curious that compared with last year the imports should have fallen more than the exports, even though the excess of imports (other than treasure) over exports is less than in 1905-06.

River-borne trade.

119. The following table shows the weight and value of the river-borne trade of the Punjab for the last three years :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1904-05	134,880	9,79,863	1,761,429	45,23,770
1905-06	162,910	11,06,501	1,494,376	51,45,064
1906-07	166,090	11,38,647	1,617,683	49,78,591

The river seems to be able to hold its own in competition with the railway so far as heavy and bulky goods are concerned.

Details of imports.

120. The imports of "apparel," of which two-thirds come from the United Provinces and one-third from the sea-ports, are leaping up and are now valued at 103 lakhs of rupees, whereas at the end of the last triennium they were worth only 58 lakhs. The increase is continuous and is a sign of the rise in the standard of comfort. European cotton piece-goods have fallen off by $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, whereas Indian piece-goods have advanced by about 50 lakhs of rupees. The price of the European goods was unusually high and this fact, aided by the Swadeshi movement, turned popular favour to the country-made goods. The same explanation may probably be given of the increase of $7\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in the imports of Indian twist and yarn. Gunny-bags gained by $17\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees, as they were required for the brisk export of grain. Metals under the sub-heads of

"Iron and Steel" shew an extraordinary increase of 100 lakhs of rupees, which is due partly to a revised classification but also to increased imports of machinery and possibly of enamel and other hardware, which is becoming more and more popular and ousting from household use articles of brass and copper, of which the prices are steadily rising. This rise of price has resulted in a considerable decrease in the imports of both these metals. The imports of oilseeds in 1904-05 were worth 23 lakhs of rupees, in 1905-06, 63 lakhs and in the present year 94 lakhs. Most of these enormously increased imports are of castor, linseed, til and "others" from the United Provinces and from Rájpútána, and are partly due to the failure of the til crop in the Punjab. There is no increase in the export of oils, so whatever the reason of these large imports the oilseeds seem to be for local consumption and not for pressing and re-export.

The most marked decreases are in coal and coke (—12 lakhs of maunds) due to the closure of most of the cotton-ginning factories for want of cotton and to the great rise in the price of Bengal coal, of leather (—11 lakhs of rupees) probably owing to the high prices, of liquors (—7 lakhs of rupees) the sales of which have declined throughout India owing to enhanced duties and the successful competition of country liquor, and of 71 lakhs in railway materials owing to the opening of several lines which had recently been completed and the subsequent lull in further construction. The imports of sugar have fallen by 75 lakhs of rupees, but are still about 65 lakhs above those of 1904-05: satisfactory as the last cane crop was it came on the market at the end of the year and the competition of cheap imported sugar was strong. The imports of raw cotton from the United Provinces fell off by 22 lakhs of rupees after the very high imports of last year: they still amount to 4½ lakhs of maunds against 27 housand maunds at the end of the last triennium and 56 thousand maunds in 1904-05. Raw wool fell off by 5¼ lakhs owing to the high prices prevailing.

Details of exports.

121. The most important fluctuations in exports are the increases in agricultural produce. The value of the exports of wheat increased by 136 lakhs, of gram and pulse by 156 lakhs, of rape and mustard by 16¼ lakhs, of other oilseeds by 20½ lakhs, and of sugar by 10 lakhs of rupees. The wheat crop of 1906 was the largest on record, but the exports, though they were 68 lakhs of maunds more than in 1905-06, were still 45 lakhs of maunds below those of 1904-05; the causes of this comparatively unfavourable result were partly low prices in Europe and stagnation in the export trade and partly want of rolling stock to move the grain to the sea-ports. The exports of European woollen piece-goods nearly doubled (+ 6½ lakhs of rupees), whereas Indian woollen piece-goods declined by 1¾ lakhs; the trade in European goods is almost entirely confined to Delhi, which exports to the United Provinces; as regards the Indian goods the decrease seems to shew that the shawl trade of Amritsar and elsewhere has not progressed during the year During the trade year portions of two cotton crops are on the market. The crop picked in 1905-06 was spoiled by boll-worm, the crop of 1906-07 was good and exceeded that of all preceding years except 1904-05. Exports accordingly recovered to a certain extent, and in weight are half a lakh above those of the preceding year, but owing to the fall in prices in the latter half of the year the value of the exports is 3½ lakhs below that of 1905-06 and 55 lakhs below that of 1904-05. Hides and skins, notwithstanding high prices and a strong foreign demand, shew a small decrease, but the exports are still over 4 lakhs of maunds, whereas prior to 1905-06 they had never exceeded 2¼ lakhs. There is a marked decrease (—5¼ lakhs of rupees) in the export of raw wool from the Cis-Sutlej Territory to Karáchi and Bombay. This is curious, as the European demand was strong and prices good.

Distribution of trade.

122. Karáchi continues to be the port of the Punjab, and her share of the total exports of the province was 41 per cent. This is not so large a share as at the end of the last triennium, when the percentage was 54. The competition does not appear to be so much between Karáchi and Bombay as between Karáchi and the United Provinces and, to a certain extent, Calcutta. As regards imports, Karáchi improves her position year by year, and is now the source or channel of 40 per cent. of the trade. She is thus displacing Bombay, whose share in the imports has fallen from 17 per cent. to 15 and 13½ per cent.

during the three years. The second place is held by the United Provinces, which have recovered from the low percentages of 22 and 19 in 1903-04 and 1904-05 and in the last two years have sent the Punjab 27 and 25½ per cent. of her imports. As between the various blocks of the Punjab 46 per cent. of the exports go from the territory between the Sutlej and the Jhelum, which includes both the great grain-producing canal colonies, but this block takes only 37 per cent. of the imports and has to yield first place to the richer and more advanced tract Cis-Sutlej. The Cis-Sutlej tract sends out 40 per cent. of the exports and takes 41 per cent. of the imports. Delhi city is a great consumer and takes 12 per cent. of the imports, but most of her sales are retail and she has no more than 4 per cent. of the exports. The trade of the other 3 blocks is insignificant.

TRADE WITH TRANS-FRONTIER COUNTRIES.

General.

123. The separation of the North-West Frontier Province has reduced the volume of the external trade of the Punjab to insignificant dimensions. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of 1905 on Indian Trade Statistics, Kashmír trade will henceforward be excluded from the external trade report, thus further decreasing the importance of the present return. The question whether the trade with Ladákh and Central Asia *viâ* Kulu, which is already registered at Leh, should be registered also in Kulu has recently been under the consideration of Government. It is not easy to ascertain in British India the ultimate source or destination of such trade, and, as the figures can already be obtained from the Kashmír Darbár, it is questionable whether any good purpose is served by a second record of them in Punjab territory. On the other hand, as trade with Tibet *viâ* the Spiti route has in any case to be registered in Kulu, the registration of Ladákh and Central Asian trade can also be done there without any additional cost, and as a comparison of the Leh and Kulu figures may be of some use, it has been decided to continue registering at Sultánpur. A recent representation from the administration of Balúchistán has led to a re-opening of the question of the registration of trade with Afghánistán which was abandoned on January 1st, 1907. It now appears that such trade passes from Khar (the abandoned post) in the Punjab through Zhob and across Toba in Peshín, thus evading registration in the Agency.

Growth of trade.

124. The figures collected under the existing system of registration provide the following comparison between the trade of the last triennium with that preceding it :—

	Average annual value of trade excluding treasure.				
	Afghánistán.	Kashmír.	Ladákh.	Chinese Tibet.	Total.
Imports from—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1901-02 to 1903-04	38,816	1,01,07,286	6,79,585	2,26,946	1,10,47,633
1904-05 to 1906-07	31,497	1,29,47,690	7,48,168	1,23,620	1,38,50,975
Exports to—					
1901-02 to 1903-04	37,627	89,24,425	2,87,650	48,219	92,97,921
1904-05 to 1906-07	82,613	80,55,587	1,66,015	46,990	83,51,205

They indicate a general increase of more than 10 per cent. in volume, but in the present uncertainty regarding the accuracy of the distribution of the registered trade between the various external areas mentioned, an examination of the detailed heads does not supply any very satisfactory information.

In the three years the exports excluding treasure have steadily grown in value from 72 lakhs of rupees in 1904-05 to 85 lakhs in the next year and to 92 lakhs in 1906-07. Cotton piece-goods (European and Indian), fruits (all other kinds), brass and copper, iron, salt, refined sugar, Indian black tea and

tobacco are the chief articles of exports. In Kashmír at any rate the Swadeshi movement does not seem to have deterred the people from increased consumption of European cloth and refined sugar. As regards imports the value was in 1904-05 110 lakhs of rupees, in 1905-06 133 lakhs and in the year just closed 171 lakhs of rupees. The most important commodities are charas, fruits ghi, hides and skins, raw silk, stone and marble, timber and manufactured woollen piece-goods. There is a large decrease under wheat. General good times and a lull in plague probably account for the increases in the two latter years. The severe plague epidemic of this spring will be evident in the figures of the current year.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number of Companies.

125. The number of companies having capital divided into shares has risen from 68 in the past year to 87 at the close of the year under report. Twenty-five new companies were formed, whilst six ceased to work. The new companies were for the most part registered in the first six months of the year. Seven of the new ventures are banks, two seem to have money-lending as their chief object, two are life insurance companies, one is a motor transport company, one is for the promotion of handloom weaving, four are cotton mills, and the others are miscellaneous mills and trading companies. Generally speaking the new companies have much more definite objects than the very nondescript associations registered in 1905-06.

Six companies were wound up. Of these three had not started work, and had no paid-up capital; of the other three, one had incurred preliminary expenses only; the Bhárat General Trading Company had done some trading, and the National Silk and Woollen Mills, although they had erected no mills, seem to have done some buying and selling of goods. There are five other companies in course of liquidation.

Capital.

126. The nominal capital of all companies has risen from 203 to 285 lakhs, and the paid-up capital from 106 to 116 lakhs of rupees. The largest increases in paid-up capital are found in the case of the banks (Rs. 2,36,108), the Punjab Cotton Press Company (Rs. 2,62,597), and the Ganesh Flour Mills, Delhi (Rs. 1,49,900). Most of the new companies have not yet reported their paid-up capital.

Prosecutions.

127. The prosecution of the officials of the Suburban Mills Company referred to last year was unsuccessful, but an appeal is pending in the Chief Court. The Indrapastha Trading Company was convicted once under section 50 of the Act, and measures have been taken for the institution of another case against it, as punishment has not served to produce the punctual submission of returns.

34. Public Works.

Expenditure.

128. The total outlay for the year amounted to Rs. 64,36,725 under the following main heads:—

	Rs.
Imperial Military Works	3,79,082
Imperial Civil Works	6,94,693
Provincial Works	47,86,330
Incorporated Local Works	3,160
Contribution Works (including local loans)	5,73,460
	64,36,725

These figures exclude a sum of Rs. 69,999 expended by the Department on Famine Relief Works, and Rs. 22,061 expended by District Officers on acquiring land for the Southern Punjab and Amritsar-Tarn Táran-Patti Railways.

Imperial military works.

129. The most important item under Imperial military works was the construction of several buildings at the Remount Depôt in Sargodha at a cost of nearly one lakh of rupees. The addition of a third storey to the Central Library at Simla was put in hand and half completed.

Imperial civil works.

130. The total outlay on works was Rs. 4,07,751 and on repairs Rs. 1,99,429. At Kasauli, additions and alterations to Ranbir Villa to adapt it for use as a Central Research Institute were completed at a cost of Rs. 59,400, including a water-supply to the building. Alterations and improvements were carried out at Simla. The most important work in progress was the new office for the Accountant-General at Lahore.

Provincial civil works—Buildings.

131. The Public Works Secretariat offices at Lahore which were commenced in the previous year were built up to roof level. The total expenditure was over 2 lakhs. New tahsils were constructed at Sargodha, Pálampur and Kángra, the latter being a temporary structure. A new record-room was built in Ambála. An office for the Commissioner was completed at Delhi, and offices for the Settlement Officers were constructed at Rohtak and Hissar. At Miánwáli the O'Brien High School was completed and a leper ward was added near the main jail buildings. At Simla the work in connection with the rebuilding of Bishop Cotton School was nearly completed and the school has since been fully re-opened. The district jail at Campbellpur was finished. Several new police stations were put in hand. The work on the construction of the Agricultural College at Lyallpur was in progress.

Roads.

132. The provincial outlay on works amounted to Rs. 6,11,832 and on repairs to Rs. 9,91,707.

The figures for the three preceding years were—

	Works.	*Repairs.*
	Rs.	Rs.
1903-04	3 98,246	9,04,872
1904-05	4,74,864	8,99,088
1905-06	5,02,490	10,90,724

A five-year programme for the construction of new feeder roads to railways was drawn up by a committee during the year. It was estimated that the total mileage which could be undertaken in any one year, with the existing staff, would cost six lakhs of rupees, and it was decided to meet this sum in equal shares from Provincial and District funds instead of wholly from Provincial funds as heretofore. About four lakhs were expended on new feeder roads during the year and the increase of Rs. 1,10,000 over the outlay of the previous year on new roads is mainly due to this cause.

Progress on the feeder roads in the Jhelum and Chenab Colonies was checked by slow delivery of metal due to short supply of trucks on the North-Western Railway. It is probable that trucks for the carriage of road metal will have to be bought in England, for the quantity of metal to be moved by rail is far greater now than it was formerly, owing to local kankar quarries having become exhausted. In the Ambála district, the Barára-Kala-Amb Road was completed. The maintenance only (disregarding that of the previous year, which was abnormally heavy owing to repairs on roads and bridges in Kángra and Kulu after the earthquake) shewed an increase of nearly one lakh of rupees over the average, and it is more than probable that this charge will continue to increase quickly because not only is the road mileage increasing yearly, but the rates of labour have already gone up 30 to 40 per cent. and are still rising.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

133. The Sargodha water-works were opened during the year. At Ludhiána good progress was made with the water-works, which are estimated to cost over four lakhs of rupees. In various towns drains were completed; but, although great improvements have been made during the last four years in the street drains of large towns, it is doubtful whether the inhabitants appreciate them. Good drains cannot be a success, without daily flushing and efficient scavenging, and municipal committees are apt to cut down expenditure on this sort of establishment, with the result that full beneficial effect of the sanitary works carried out, is lost.

Dera Ghazi Khan protective works.

134. At Dera Gházi Khan, further protective measures, on a small scale, were necessary. The bay, above the northern end of the stone bund, remained open with the river sweeping right through it and erosion continued, more or less, all through the cold weather of 1906-07. The position was considered so critical that a stone apron was laid on he reverse slope of the nose and subsidence at the head of the bund itself was made good. These measures have for the time proved successful.

Famine relief works.

135 The famine relief works which came into the financial year were described in last year's Administration Report. It is unnecessary to notice them again.

RAILWAYS.

Kalka-Simla Railway.

136. On the 1st January 1906 the Kálka-Simla Railway was purchased and the line was worked under the direct orders of the Railway Board up to the 31st December 1906. It was made over to the North-Western State Railway Administration with effect from the 1st January 1907. Between the 28th of June and the 16th of September 1906 considerable and serious damage was done to this railway owing to an abnormal monsoon. There were innumerable landslips, the line was washed away or subsided in many places, and traffic was suspended for 36 days.

North-Western Railway.

137. The following mileage was opened during the year:—

	Mileage.
Shorkot Road to Sargodha	103·14
Amritsar to Tarn Táran	14·2
Tarn Táran to Patti	13·29
McLeod Ganj Road to Ferozepore city	78

Of these the first only is on the North-Western Railway proper. The remaining additions are on the Amritsar-Patti and the Southern Punjab Railways, which are both worked on contract by the North-Western Railway.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

The year was a most successful one. 33,508,000 passengers were carried or an advance of 3½ millions in the previous year. 7,50,000 tons more goods were carried. The net earnings rose from Rs. 3,17,13,000 to 3,25,80,000, and although the percentage of working expenses to gross earnings rose slightly on the commercial section, there was a marked decrease on the military section where the earnings now all but equal the expenses.

The following surveys were completed:—

	Miles.
From Jhang *viá* Chiniot to Sángla	74·4
From Patiála to Jakhal	54·35
From Khánpur to Chachran	23·27

all on the 5′ 6″ gauge.

The following surveys were in progress:—

	Miles.
Patti to Lodhrán	242
Dhák to Katha	10
The Jullundur Doáb group of railways	122

all on the 5′ 6″ gauge.

As an experimental measure, the running of a steam coach on the Wazírabád-Siálkot Branch was introduced in March.

35. Irrigation.

General.

138. The canals in the province show the following results for 1906-07:—

I.—Canals in operation classed as Productive.

Major Works.

		Rs.
Capital expenditure during year.	Direct charges	9,38,029
	Indirect charges	26,802
	Total	9,64,831
The capital invested to end of 1906-07 amounted to ...		11,11,16,550
Income from all sources, *less* refunds		2,21,75,797
Working expenses		69,78,097
Balance excess revenue, being 13·68 per cent. on Rs. 11,11,16,550		1,51,97,700
Interest—		
	Rs.	
at 4 per cent. on Rs. 8,84,06,769 outlay to end of March 1900	35,36,271	
at 3¾ per cent. on subsequent outlay ...	6,86,079	
		42,22,350
Net profit after paying interest		1,09,75,350
Ditto ditto in 1905-06		79,16,385
Ditto ditto in 1904-05		92,51,813

II.—Imperial Canals, Minor Works not classed as Productive.

The capital outlay to the close of 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 5,59,235. A small expenditure of Rs. 76 only was incurred during the year on the Ghaggar Inundation Canals.

	Rs.
The income from all sources *less* refunds amounted to ...	15,87,342
Working expenses	9,35,511
Balance profit	6,51,831
Ditto in 1905-06	4,30,187
Ditto in 1904-05	5,05,932

III.—Provincial Canals.

There are only two Provincial Canals in operation, *viz.*, the Shahpur Provincial Canals and the Ravi Inundation Canals.

	Rs.
The income from all sources amounted to	84,028
Working expenses	48,401
Balance profit	35,627
Ditto in 1905-06	4,918
Ditto in 1904-05	29,653

The total area irrigated by Major Works was 5,902,995 acres as compared with 5,821,096, the average of the preceding three years. The total area irrigated by Minor Works was 803,317 acres as compared with 715,945. Matters of interest relating to each canal are noticed below.

Western Jumna Canal.

139. The total irrigated area during 1906-07 was a little less than in 1905-06 which was a record year. The total rainfall in almost all the districts in this circle during the autumn crop was copious, while during the spring crop the rainfall was below the records of the corresponding crop of the previous year except in the Ambála and Rohtak districts. Remissions of the demand aggregating Rs. 20,526 were given, being 0·66 per cent. on the gross direct receipts and 1·02 per cent. on the net income. The canal was twice closed for a total period of 33 days on account of cessation of demand owing to rain.

Upper Bari Doab Canal.

140. The maximum river flood during the year occurred on the 16th September 1906 and recorded 27·5 on the Mukesar gauge, for which the highest reading yet obtained was 30 (recorded on the 16th August 1900). Extensive repairs were found necessary to the Training Works in the river, most of which have been carried out. Irrigation has been developing on all the new systems in the 3rd Division, such as Rakh Distributary, Hunjrah Branch, and Thatta Balayara Minor of the Vahn Distributary, Zaffarke and Bhoa Asal Minors, and Kahna Distributary extensions and Ghannakar Minor. Detailed estimates for the extension of the Niáz Beg Distributary have been worked out. A metalled road has been made along the right bank of the canal in the neighbourhood of Lahore for the use of the residents of that town. Proposals are under consideration for thoroughly remodelling the system of irrigation round Lahore, the Lahore city and in the Lahore civil station. Similar proposals have been received for remodelling all the distributaries on the Main Branch Upper and Main Branch Lower in the 2nd Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal.

Sirhind Canal.

141. The autumn rainfall was good and well distributed and up to the average except in the Native States. The spring fall was bountiful everywhere, and even excessive at the close of the season. The late gram suffered on this account, and the promise of a magnificent wheat crop was marred in some measure, the quality of the grain and straw deteriorating under the influence of cloudy and wet weather during the reaping season. The canal was closed for 46 days during the year at different times when necessity arose for so doing. The remarkable persistency of river floods during August called for frequent closures to avoid excess of silt deposit in the channel, and this was very troublesome at times when demand was keen. The silt in the Main Line was kept well within satisfactory limits. The rotational system of distribution of supply was begun in November and worked well throughout the season. Great progress was made in remodelling all distributary channels and their outlets, and, broadly speaking, the cultivators are beginning to recognise the merits of the system of conserving water in bulk for rapid distribution.

Lower Chenab Canal.

142. The most noticeable feature of the year was the partial failure of the cotton crop in nearly 150,000 acres and the extensive damage to the wheat, gram and coriander crops in 500,000 acres. The partial failure of the autumn (cotton) crop greatly affected the revenue of the year; that of the spring will affect the revenue next year, as the collections on account of that crop will be credited in the accounts for 1907-08. In view of the fact that the area assessed is unfortunately so nearly equal to the minimum area proposed to be irrigated by the canal, it is interesting to calculate the percentage of profit by assessments in this, which it is hoped, is the least profitable year:—

	Rs.
Gross revenue assessed	71,23,013
Deduct remissions granted after submission of Demand Statements on 27,477 acres	1,47,273
Revenue actually assessed	69,75,740
Deduct working expenses	19,61,473
Net revenue based on assessments	50,14,267

This net revenue is 17·7 per cent. on the capital expenditure of Rs. 2,82,27,748. The total area of Crown waste land now allotted is 1,822,444 acres. The area classed as allottable is 1,927,305 acres.

Lower Jhelum Canal.

143. The highest flood in the Jhelum during the year occurred on the 15th-16th September 1906, when the Rasul standard guage read 712·60, which was 3·1 lower than in the great flood of 12th September 1905. The raising by 2 feet of the shutters in Bays 1 and 2 of the weir was completed in February 1907, and the shutters in Bays 3 and 4 will be similarly raised in the cold weather of 1907-08. A heavy flood came down the Chenab River on the 16th—18th September 1906, when the Riasi guage registered 24·0. This was 0·3 higher than the highest flood on record (which occurred on the 12th September 1905). No damage was done to the Upper Marginal Bund and the Lower Marginal Bund also held very well, with the exception of two small breaches by which no damage was done to crops or channels. It is now hoped that these two bunds, with ordinary maintenance, are sufficiently strong to withstand any floods in future.

Upper Chenab and Upper Jhelum Canals.

144. Work was in progress during the year on both these new Major Works. On the former Rs. 37,41,461 were spent and on the latter Rs. 27,74,312. All the heavy plant ordered from England arrived by the end of the year. Indents for rolling stock were sent to the India Office. The heavy rainfall at the end of August caused intense floods in most of the torrents, and the continuous rain during the cold weather and the severe outbreak of plague demoralised the labour supply generally.

Lower Bari Doab Canal.

145. The Lower Bari Doab Canal Circle was opened on the 11th October 1906 with head-quarters at Lahore. The 2nd Division was constituted on the 15th October 1906 and the 3rd on the 29th November 1906, with head-quarters of both at Montgomery. Boring operations were carried out at various sites on the river with a view to fixing a site for the Ravi Crossing.

Inundation Canals.

146. Owing to the plentiful supply of water the inundation canals worked splendidly throughout the year. The results can best be judged by looking at the results in the shape of collections. On the Upper Sutlej the profit was equivalent to 20 per cent. on the capital outlay as compared with 4·8 last year. The Sidhnái Canal yielded 27 per cent. The Indus Inundation 5·21 as compared with 5·79. On the Lower Sutlej the profit was 2·65 lakhs as against 1·51. The Shahpur Provincial and Imperial Canals both showed double the collections. On the Muzaffargarh Inundation Canals a very heavy flood in July did considerable damage.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[Detailed information on the subject dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

(*a*)—DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1906.

Canal Revenue.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the year 1906-07.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1906-07.

Stamps.—Note on the Stamp Statements of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

Income Tax.—Punjab Income Tax Report for 1906-07.

Forests—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1906-07.

Local Funds.—Review of the Accounts and Administration of District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

(*b*)—FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, THIRTEENTH ISSUE.

Stamps.—Tables VIII 22 to 24.

(*c*)—FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, FOURTEENTH ISSUE.

Salt.—Tables III 11 and 12.

Excise.—Table V 12.

Income Tax.—Table VIII 2, 3, 8 and 9.]

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

147. In the following statements for the year ending March 31st, 1907, the income and expenditure of the Railways, Post Office, and Telegraph Departments and Military expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals are omitted. General.

148. The revenue raised in the Province during 1906-07 is made up as follows, last year's figures being quoted for comparison :— Reveuue.

SOURCES OF REVENUE.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Land Revenue	2,41·53	2,71·85
Irrigation (excluding land revenue due to canals)	*1,85·71	2,20·37
Salt	47·02	41·40
Local Rates	42·90	27·03
Stamps	39·26	40·48
Excise and Opium	35·65	40·73
Income Tax	12·38	13·32
Forests	17·82	16·05
Police	6·94	6·86
Civil Works	6·64	8·48
Interest	3·50	3·67
Law and Justice	3·44	3·60
Tribute	3·02	2·77
Registration	2·59	2·73
Jails	1·86	1·94
Education	3·57	3·78
All other items	11·02	10·27
TOTAL RECEIPTS	6,64·85	7,15·33

* The figure shown last year has been corrected by the inclusion of the amount realized from owner's rate.

Expenditure.

149. The expenditure, excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, Municipal expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals, amounted to 4,24,08 lakhs in 1906-07. The detailed items, with corresponding figures for the previous year, are given below :—

Departments.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Irrigation	76·42	80·27
Public Works	70·18	74·40
Land Revenue	45·64	47·03
Police	43·14	47·08
Law and Justice	36·63	38·59
Medical	15·64	16·78
Education	26·44	27·57
General Administration	15·04	14·40
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	14·78	14·93
Jails	10·38	10·53
Forests	12·63	11·44
Political	6·61	6·43
Stationery and Printing	5·32	6·23
Scientific and Other Minor Departments	5·59	6·88
Salt	3·85	3·81
All other items	17·51	17·71
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4,05·80	4,24·08

Abstract of income and expenditure.

150. The following is an abstract of the gross income and expenditure for 1906-07 as recorded in the books of the Accountant-General, Punjab :—

	Receipts.				Expenditure.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue and expenditure.	1,90,80,076	3,09,21,238	37,61,510	5,37,62,824	23,11,206	3,14,18,080	34,50,331	3,71,79,617
Contributions	...	2,95,265	7,13,728	10,08,993	...	7,13,728	2,95,265	10,08,993
Debt and remittance heads	...	...	...	32,79,36,419	...	...	...	34,69,64,220
Total	1,90,80,076	3,12,16,503	44,75,238	38,27,08,236	23,11,206	3,21,31,808	37,45,596	38,51,52,830
Opening balance.	...	...	...	91,15,178	Closing balance		...	66,70,584
GRAND TOTAL	...	...	...	39,18,23,414	...	...	...	39,18,23,414

37. Land Revenue.

151. The land revenue collections for the year ending 30th September 1906 have been reviewed in Chapter II. The financial and revenue years do not correspond, but in both the excellent spring harvest of 1906 is included. This accounts for the increase in receipts, as it is not counterbalanced in the financial year by the bad autumn havest of 1905.

38. Irrigation.

152. The capital expenditure to the end of 1906-07 on all canals in operation and under construction for which a capital account is kept amounts to 1,218 lakhs. Of this sum nearly 75 lakhs were spent during the year, over 53 lakhs being devoted to the productive major works under construction. Capital expenditure.

153. The income including that realised on works for which only revenue accounts are kept and on the provincial canals amounted to 238 lakhs. The charges including interest on capital outlay amounted to 124 lakhs, thus leaving a net income of 114 lakhs. The condition of the Irrigation Department has been already discussed in Chapter IV. Income.

39. Opium and Excise Revenue.

154. The most remarkable feature of excise report is the continued growth in the gross revenue under this head, amounting in three years to a rise of 8½ lakhs of rupees. The net increase is almost the same, and the growth is apparent in every class of receipts. In some cases, as in those of imported charas and coloured spirits, the increase in revenue does not necessarily indicate a corresponding increase in consumption, as the rise is in part to be accounted for by enhancement of duty. The receipts from opium, however, and from country spirit, on which classes the rate of taxation has remained constant, exhibit an increase of nearly 6 lakhs, the chief rise being under the latter head. General.

155. The experiment of attempting to combat illicit distillation in four Sikh districts by selling liquor at a less expensive price than elsewhere, which is the most notewrothy feature of the Excise administration of the year, has been the subject of a special report, submitted for the orders of the Government of India. One result of the experiment has been to disclose the existence of illicit distillation on a much larger scale than was originally supposed to exist, and it would seem that the bulk of the increased revenue, derived from excise in the area referred to, represents what would have accrued to Government had it been possible to deal with illicit distillation on adequate lines in the past. The price of spirit in these districts has recently been raised with a view to determine more accurately the maximum rate at which it is possible to drive out illicit liquor without stimulating consumption. It is interesting to learn that the experiment has been accompanied locally by a decided decrease in the consumption of charas. Excluding these four districts the total for the province of Indian spirits sold under retail vend licenses compares as follows with the two preceding years:— Liquor.

	Gallons.
1904-05	235,587
1905-06	232,389
1906-07	244,559

The growth is attributed to the stimulus of plague and to general prosperity and good wages, and would have probably been higher but for the high price of molasses. Owing to the clearance of stocks to avoid the enhancement of duty in April 1906, the sales of coloured and sophisticated spirits do not yet show the effect of the increase in taxation. Some 1,500 gallons less beer were consumed during the present year than in 1904-05, and 7,000 less than last

year. The enhancement of duty on imported liquor imposed in Feburary 1906 checked the sales, but only to a very small extent, the consumers of such liquor being as a rule able to bear the enhanced rates without difficulty. As regards outstills, the issue in Firozpur (Gurgaon) remained constant, while the Kángra outstills increased their outturn by 2,500 gallons, drinking apparently having been stimulated by the rise in wages following the earthquake.

Opium and drugs.

156. The severity of the winter and the apprehensions of the cultivators regarding the proposed changes in the system of taxation contracted the supply of home grown opium during 1906-07. Prices in consequence ruled high, with the result that the spring crop of 1907 showed an increase of 17 per cent. both in the sown and matured areas. The acreage duty rose by Rs. 4,000. Only 24 per cent. of the produce appears to have been consumed in the Punjab, 16,000 sers being exported to Native States. In spite, however, of the high prices the consumption of opium and also of poppy-heads rose by 1,100 sers and 12,000 sers respectively. Large stocks of charas were cleared in order to avoid the enhancement of duty in the current year, and imports were swollen by the recovery of a large consignment which had been lost in the snow. Prices fell generally in consequence, and the consumption was slightly higher than that of the previous year. The consumption of bhang has decreased. Cocaine was included in the list of intoxicating drugs by the amending Act of 1906, but it is too early to forecast how far the measures intended to put a stop to the pernicious cocaine habit will prove successful.

40. Salt Revenue.

General.

157. No change was made in the prices at which salt manufactured on behalf of Government was sold to the public during the year. The rate of duty remained unchanged up to the 19th March 1907, but on and from the 20th March it was reduced to Re. 1 a maund. The duty on salt manufactured in the Mandi mines was reduced from Re. 0-4-6 to 0-3-0 from the same date. There was a marked increase in consumption of over 200,000 maunds, which represents an increase per head of '44 lbs., the figures being 7·98 lbs in 1905-06 and 8·42 lbs. in 1906-07. A comparison of the prices before and after the reduction of duty shows that throughout the province the consumers received the full benefit, the only two exceptions being Shahpur and Ludhiána, where prices were slightly enhanced by combination among the traders.

41. Stamp Revenue.

General.

158. The total receipts of 1906-07 exceed those of the previous year by about Rs. 26,000. The total charges have fallen by Rs. 6,182 in spite of increases of Rs. 843 and Rs. 579 on account of postal charges and expenditure incurred in the carriage of stamp boxes. The net receipts are Rs. 32,005 greater than in 1905-06. The income from non-judicial stamps is Rs. 71,687 less than that of 1905-06. If, however, the income during the latter year from the sale of receipt stamps be omitted, the total for the year under report is Rs. 24,523 above that of 1905-06. Impressed non-judicial stamps realized Rs. 29,707 more than in 1905-06. In Amritsar, owing to the unsettled commercial conditions, several firms had to sell or mortgage their property in order to meet their liabilities. In the other districts the increases are attributed to more extensive land transactions between agriculturists. The income from the sale of *hundís* fell by Rs. 6,503. The insolvency of several firms reduced the transactions in these bills in Amritsar and also affected them in Delhi. Foreign bill stamps were more extensively used on account of the increased import of foreign goods into Amritsar. Lahore reports increased activity in dealings in the shares of companies. The necessity for affixing notarial stamps to certificates on powers-of-attorney is more carefully kept in view than formerly.

42. Assessed taxes.

159. A triennial report was issued on this subject in 1904. The total net collections show an increase from Rs. 12,31,792 to Rs. 13,25,409. This is partly accounted for by the fact that the Southern Punjab Railway paid income tax for the first time this year. There is a very marked increase of Rs. 27,000 in the assessment of Delhi, and every year the importance of the trade of that city becomes more marked. The total number of the lowest class of assessees with incomes below Rs. 1,000 rose by over 200 and the income realised from them by nearly Rs. 5,000. There is no reason, however, to believe that the Act is not being fairly worked.

43. Forest Revenue.

160. [Forest revenue and expenditure have already been noticed in Chapter IV.]

44. Provincial Revenues.

161. The income and expenditure under the provincial section of accounts during the past year have been as follows:—

Year.	Opening balance.	Income.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1904-05	32,00,000	2,69,86,803	2,21,92,416	79,94,387
1905-06	79,94,387	2,73,08,306	3,01,04,358	51,98,335
1906-07	*60,47,000	3,12,16,503	3,21,31,808	51,31,695

*The opening balance for 1906-07 differs from the closing balance on 31st March 1906 on account of the transfer of Rs. 8,49,000, the balance of the Patwari Fund, from Local to Provincial.

The figures for 1906-07 are not final, but are liable to correction in next year's Administration Report. The closing balance of the year 1906-07 included 16 lakhs out of the 20 lakhs contributed from Imperial Revenues for the extension and improvement of Simla. The patwar cess was abolished with effect from the 1st April 1906, from which date the patwari service was provincialised.

The revenue classed as Provincial consists of a share of the receipts of the general revenues, the principal heads of which, with the exception of Provincial Rates, have been discussed above. Provincial Rates on land include the local rate levied under the District Boards Act, 1883, which is noticed in the following section. Under the new Provincial Settlement, which came into force on 1st April 1905, Provincial Revenues receive three-eighths of the income from Imperial canals and are responsible for the same proportion of the working expenses and interest on debt, subject to a guaranteed net income of 28 lakhs per annum.

45. Local Funds.

Balances.

162. The closing balances on 31st March 1907 aggregated Rs. 23,66,000 against Rs. 19,50,000 in the previous year. The latter figure includes the adjustment of the grant of 6½ lakhs given by the Government of India, which was effected by journal entry after the review for 1905-06 had been rendered. It is satisfactory to note that the special annual grants referred to under "Contributions" and the policy of regulating the liability of district boards for local plague

expenditure with reference to their financial position have materially improved the finances of these bodies. The orders of the Government of India imperialising District Postal Charges with effect from the 1st April 1906, and the waiving of the recoveries hitherto made from these bodies on that account, have also benefited district boards by Rs. 1,41,000 per annum. In every case the closing balance was well over the prescribed minimum of ten per cent. of income. The policy of Government in undertaking the construction of feeder roads in accordance with a methodical programme, and financing a moiety of the cost will soon have these lines of communication on a satisfactory basis, while the improvement in the financial condition of the district boards should enable them to bring their other Public Works requirements up to date.

Audit.

163. The accounts of twelve district boards were audited during the year, but in the accounts of only one—Shahpur—serious irregularities were disclosed in the Public Works Section in the matter of measurements. A simple code of accounts has been drafted by the Examiner and is now under the consideration of Government. It brings together the essential rules bearing on the upkeep and control of the accounts of these bodies, and their careful observance should remove the defects noticed.

Income and expenditure.

164. The accounts have been tabulated in the forms as revised by the Government of India in their Home Department Resolution No. 14—26, dated 29th January 1907. Excluding debt head transactions, the total income amounted to Rs. 42,40,000 against Rs. 31,84,000 and the expenditure to Rs. 38,90,000 against Rs. 32,32,000 in the previous year. There is a nominal decrease in the income from Local Rates shown in the tabulated statement at the opening of the chapter. This is due to the abolition of the patwar cess. The increase in the real income is chiefly under the heads Provincial Rates 3·12 lakhs, Civil Works 1·27 lakhs, Contributions 6·19 lakhs. That under "Provincial Rates" is due to good harvests, which ensured the payment of current demands and also of suspended revenue, and partly to enhanced income resulting from the creation of the Chunián and Jhelum colonies, the revision of assessment in the Háfizabad and Khángah Dográn tahsíls, and the re-assessment of revenue on lands on the Jhelum Canal due to the extension of irrigation. The receipts under "Civil Works" increased chiefly under the heads "Sale of buildings and other property" (Rs. 82,000) due to the sale of shop sites of the Dabwáli Mandi in the Hissar district, which has been extended during the year under report, and partly under the heads "Sale of stores and materials" in the Attock district, "Sale-proceeds of trees, grass, &c." and "Receipts or savings from Public Works under Civil Audit".

The increase in expenditure of 6·58 lakhs is chiefly under the heads Civil Works 5·33 lakhs, Education 1·48 lakh, Medical (excluding plague) ·41 lakh and Scientific and other Minor Departments ·51 lakh. That under Civil Works is explained below. The extension of primary education, the revision of the scale and pay of the teaching staff, and the improvement of apparatus and school equipment account for the increase under "Education". The purchase of Arab stallions and Hissar bulls for cattle-breeding, the opening of new veterinary dispensaries in three districts and the purchase of medicines, instruments and furniture to equip others absorb the increase shown under "Scientific and other Minor Departments."

Contributions.

165. This head is the channel of adjustment between the Provincial Government and district boards of their respective obligations. On the receipt side there is an increase of Rs. 6,19,000 which represents the one-fourth share of the fluctuating local rate contributed by Provincial revenues for the use of district boards out of the fixed annual assignment of 6½ lakhs made by the Government of India. The decrease of Rs. 1,94,000 on the expenditure side is chiefly due to the imperialization with effect from the 1st April 1906 of district postal charges. The arrear contributions remaining due to Government on the 31st March 1907 amounted to Rs. 37,000 only.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 16,29,000 against Rs. 10,96,000 in the preceding year. The increase of Rs. 5,33,000, which was mainly financed from the annual assignment of 6½ lakhs made by the Government of India, was spread over almost all the sub-heads excepting "Miscellaneous," which showed a decrease of Rs. 2,000. Of this increase "Buildings" absorbed Rs. 1,20,000 (Original Works Rs. 95,000 and Repairs Rs. 25,000), "Communications" Rs. 2,82,000 (Original Works Rs. 2,32,000 and Repairs Rs. 50,000), "Other Works of Improvement" Rs. 63,000, "Arboricultural charges" Rs. 31,000, "Establishment and Contingencies" Rs. 23,000, and the rest was spent under other sub-heads. Civil Works.

The works of importance constructed during the year were—

	Rs.
Hissar.—Dabwáli and Budhláda Mandi works	34,000
Ludhiána.—Jagráon Mandi works	21,000
Ferozepore.—New building for district board office ...	12,000
Lyallpur.—Sarái at Lyallpur	33,000

166. Excluding plague charges, the expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,01,000 against Rs. 3,60,000 in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 41,000 occurs chiefly under the head "Hospitals and Dispensaries," and is due mainly to larger outlay on the purchase of European medicines, surgical instruments and equipment for dispensaries, and, partly to the opening of new dispensaries in the districts of Ludhiána, Ferozepore and Miánwáli. The local expenditure on plague aggregated 1·37 lakhs against ·44 lakh in 1905-06, of which 1·13 lakhs and ·42 lakh respectively were charged to district funds under the arrangement explained above Medical.

46. Municipal Funds.

167. The balance of the several municipalities at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 16,53,000 in cash and Rs. 2,87,000 in investments. Those of a few municipalities fell below the prescribed minimum of 10 per cent. of the receipts for the year, owing partly to the prevalence of plague and partly to larger refunds of octroi collections. Balances.

168. The total income exclusive of debt head transactions amounted to Rs. 54,08,000 against Rs. 49,48,000 last year. The chief increase is under the head "Grants and Contributions" (for general and special purposes) under which the municipalities received Rs. 4,36,000 against Rs. 2,27,000. Rupees 1,00,000 were given from the 20 lakhs assigned by the Government of India for the extension of Simla and Rs. 82,000 were subscribed by the public in aid of the water-supply scheme of Ludhiána. The total receipts under the head "Miscellaneous" were Rs. 4,03,000 against Rs. 3,04,000, showing an increase of Rs. 99,000, which is due, partly to the sale of unserviceable articles in Delhi and, partly to better income from the sale of water in the Delhi, Ambála, Amritsar and Lahore municipalities. Income.

169. The total expenditure was Rs. 53,13,000 against Rs. 51,98,000. There was an increase of Rs. 1,64,000 under "General Administration and Collection Charges" and the sub-heads "Refunds other than octroi," "Collection of octroi" and "Office establishment," which is due chiefly to the entertainment of larger establishments for the collection of octroi, and to the cost entailed in carrying out improvements following the introduction of the Municipal Account Code. The charge for Public Instruction amounted to Rs. 4,43,000 against Rs. 4,34,000 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 9,000 spread over several towns and spent on improvements in the pay of the teaching staff and in the equipment of schools. The total number of scholars on the rolls of secondary schools under municipal management on 31st March 1907 was 15,300 or 819 more than in the previous year. Expenditure.

Extraordinary and Debt.

170. The receipts and charges under this head amounted to Rs. 4,63,000 and Rs. 4,01,000, against Rs. 4,56,000 and Rs. 2,97,000 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 7,000 and Rs. 1,04,000. respectively. The increase on the expenditure side is due chiefly to larger investments made in the year. The balances of loans outstanding on 31st March 1907 aggregated Rs. 52,28,000 against Rs. 52,83,000 on 31st March 1906. The decrease of Rs. 55,000 represents the difference between the advances taken up during the year by certain municipalities against sanctioned loans and the instalments paid in repayment of loans advanced in previous years. The financial condition of each indebted municipality was satisfactory, the closing balance on 31st March 1907 in every case being above the minimum prescribed by Government.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

[Detailed information and statistics will be found in the following reports and publications:—

Census.—Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier, 1901, by H. A. Rose, I.C.S.

Births and Deaths—
Sanitations.— Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Proceedings of the Sanitary Board and the Report on Sanitary Works for the year 1906.
Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06, Eleventh Issue, Table XIII.

Emigration.— Census Report, *as above*, and Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Thirteenth Issue, Table XXXV.

Medical Relief.— Notes on the Annual Statements of the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the Punjab for the year ending 31st December 1906.
Judicial, &c., Statistics, *as above*, Tables XIV and XV.
Report of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the year 1906.

Vaccination.— Notes on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1906-07.
Judicial, &c., Statistics, *as above*, Table XVI.]

47. Details of Census.

(See pages 153—60 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.)

48. Births and Deaths.

Birth-rate.

171. The number of births registered during the year was 878,006, which gives a ratio of 43·7 per thousand, and is slightly below the figure for the preceding year. A lowering of the birth-rate is usually ascribed to the prevalence of malaria in the preceding autumn; but, as the season in 1905 was not markedly unhealthy in this respect, and as plague greatly decreased in 1906, an explanation of the diminished birth-rate must be sought elsewhere. There seems to be reasonable grounds for the suggestion of the Sanitary Commissioner that the defect is possibly due to the scarcity and consequent high prices of food-grains prevailing in certain districts at the end of 1905 and beginning of 1906, especially as this defect is more strongly marked in the areas most affected by these causes. The decrease in the birth-rate in Hissar and Rohtak is clearly ascribable to this cause. The excess of the birth-rate over the death-rate amounted to 6·8 per thousand for the whole province, and, although the birth-rate was less than in 1905, it is above the average for the previous quinquennium.

Death-rate.

172. The death-rate for the year 1906 corresponds to a ratio of 36·94 per thousand and exhibits a very substantial decrease of 10·61 as compared with the very high rate (47·55) of 1905. The climatic conditions for three-quarters of the year were favourable, and, had it not been for heavy monsoon rainfall late in the season, the year would under normal conditions have shown a low death-rate. The two principal features that have dominated the vital statistics for some years past are the mortality from fever and from plague, and of these the latter is the more variable factor. The distinguishing feature, and it may be added the most satisfactory one, of the year

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under report is the remarkable diminution in the mortality from plague, and, broadly speaking, it is this which explains the more pronounced variations from the state of affairs that has existed during the previous four years. From 1902 to 1905 the Punjab registered the highest death-rate in India, but during the year under review it shows a decline to the third place, below the Central and United Provinces; and for the first time since 1901 the birth-rate exceeds the death-rate. Both these facts may be attributed to the decrease in the loss of life from plague.

Fevers.

173. The mortality from fevers was rather greater than in 1905, 407,878 deaths being registered from this cause, or more than half the total mortality from all causes. The year 1906 was not, however, particularly unhealthy in this respect, and in point of fact the death-rate from this class of disease was below the average for the previous five years. The death-rate from small-pox, though nearly treble that of the previous year, was only slightly in excess of the quinquennial average, and this disease seems to be subject to periodic variation for which no satisfactory explanation is forthcoming. The figures of deaths from other diseases varied but slightly from the normal average and need no detailed comment.

Plague.

174. The most marked feature of the year was the diminution in the plague mortality, which fell to the lowest figure recorded since 1901. There were 91,712 deaths reported as compared with 334,897 in 1905. This is ascribed to the climatic conditions of the autumn of 1905 being adverse to the recrudescence and spread of the disease, so that the high figures of the previous four years were never approached. In the later part of 1906 the conditions again most unfortunately became very favourable to the spread of the disease, and since the close of the year the province has been suffering from a visitation which is unprecedented, any hopes that were entertained of a natural diminution of virulence being thus disappointed. Every effort has been made to educate the people and their natural leaders in the measures which they can carry out themselves and to stimulate them into action. Rat destruction has been carried out on a large scale, and it is encouraging to learn that it has been to a modified extent successful. It is a measure that is fairly well accepted, as it causes little incovenience, and it may be hoped that as time goes on the people may be persuaded to take a more active interest in it and learn to carry it out themselves. Evacuation, desiccation and inoculation form the other main palliatives in combating the disease, but their effectiveness is constantly marred by the lack of thoroughness with which they are carried out. The great preponderance of female over male mortality and the relative immunity of infants and the aged are again striking features of the returns.

49. Emigration and Immigration.

(There is nothing to report under this heading.)

50. Medical Relief.

New dispensaries.

175. At the beginning of 1906 there were 395 hospitals and dispensaries of all classes; 25 were established during the year and 6 were closed; thus a total of 414 remained open at the end of the year. The new dispensaries include 6 that existed prior to 1906, but whose statistics have been furnished for the first time. Seven new dispensaries constructed from local funds were opened during the year and those of this class now number 248.

In-patients and out-patients.

176. There were 3,907,582 out-patients treated as compared with 3,199,250 in 1905. 62,826 in-patients were treated at all the institutions as compared with 57,091 in 1905. Of these 44,139 were cured, 10,404 relieved, 5,219 discharged otherwise and 2,026 died. The ratio per cent. of deaths has slightly risen from 3·17 in 1905 to 3·22. There was a daily average of 2,015·17 under treatment against 1,943·62 in 1905. The number of beds maintained was 3,603 against 3,398 last year, and although the total number available is

far in excess of the daily average of patients, some of the more popular hospitals are overcrowded during the spring and autumn when the people take advantage of a lull in agricultural operations to undergo surgical treatment.

Staff.

177. Four English trained nurses were added to the staff of the Mayo Hospital, and steps were taken to provide some for the municipal hospitals of Delhi and Amritsar. The continued success and efficiency of the Mission hospitals is largely due to the presence of such nurses,—an advantage enjoyed by very few Government institutions.

Nature of the work.

178. The prevalence of malaria throughout the Province during the autumnal months accounts for an increase of 276,763 in the total number of persons treated. In several districts the attendance under this head was more than twice what it was in the previous year. There was also an increase under almost all other heads of disease, which was most marked in the cases of eye affections, ear affections, "other diseases of the digestive system," ulcers and "other diseases of the skin." The number of cases of small-pox was 367 as compared with 93 in 1905, cholera cases also rose from 469 to 773. The number of surgical operations rose from 180,408 to 192,643, of which 19,421 were selected operations. Of the latter 3,274 including 2,974 cataract extractions were performed by one officer, Major Smith, Civil Surgeon of Jullundur, who has thus established a world record.

Leper asylums.

179. During the year 171 lepers were admitted into the leper asylums: 30 died and 148 left of their own accord. The total number treated was therefore practically the same as in the previous year. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 18,566.

Pasteur Institute.

180. During the year 1,308 persons were treated at the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli, being an increase of no less than 52 per cent. as compared with the previous year. Of these 452 were Europeans and 856 natives. It is most satisfactory to note that the institution is rapidly becoming popular among the latter, and whereas only 364 native patients were treated in 1905, the figure for 1906 was 570 and for the year under report 856. Out of the total number there were only 10 failures, 1 being in a European case and 9 in native cases.

Lunatic asylum.

181. The total number admitted into the lunatic asylum was 174, of whom 131 were males and 43 females, as compared with 151 males and 33 females in the previous year. Including the number remaining on the 1st January, the total population was 770, consisting of 605 males and 165 females, against 612 males and 148 females in 1905. The daily average strength was 604·75 against 597·00 in the previous year. The total number discharged was 114, of whom 97 were males and 17 females; 40 males and 17 females died, leaving 599 inmates at the end of the year, against 596 at the close of 1905. The daily average strength of the population is still in excess of the accommodation available in the male asylum, while the number of patients in the female asylum exhibits a steadily increasing tendency in the same direction. A scheme for increasing the accommodation in the male asylum is being worked out in detail, and will, it is hoped, be advanced to a practical stage before very long. Owing to the prevalence of malaria in the latter portion of the year a considerable strain was thrown on the hospital resources of the asylum, which had to be met by placing a number of the sick in tents. Excluding two cases of suicide, which occurred for the first time since the opening of the asylum in 1900, the death-rate was actually lower than in the previous year, a fact which speaks well for the efficiency with which the sick were treated. In neither of the cases of suicide had any symptoms been previously observed in the patients to indicate a suicidal tendency. Steps were taken to segregate juveniles from adults much to the advantage of both. The question of the complete separation of criminal insanes is still under consideration.

Chemical Examiner.

182. There has been a marked increase in the number of both cases and articles submitted for analysis to the Chemical Examiner during the year. The former have risen from 1,140 to 1,395 and the latter from 3,361 to 3,989. The detective results have been most satisfactory, with ratios of 68·59 per cent. in human, over 78 in cattle, and nearly 92 in blood cases. In view of the increase of work in the department the Chemical Examiner has been relieved of his lecturing duties in the Medical College from the end of the summer session of 1907.

51. Sanitation.

Sanitation.

183. A sum of over Rs. 40,000 was spent by local bodies in the clearance and protection of wells; but it is disappointing to note that the rewards offered by district boards for sanitary improvement in villages evoked no interest and remained unutilised.

The sanitary board held five meetings during the year and were able to distribute the allotment placed at their disposal by assisting fourteen towns to finance various sanitary projects which would otherwise have had to be postponed. The services of the Sanitary Engineer to Government, which has now been made a permanent appointment, were very fully employed by local bodies in the preparation of schemes and estimates for drainage and water-works, and a number of important projects are being carried through under his advice and supervision. The drainage schemes at Delhi, Multán and Ráwalpindi made satisfactory progress during the year, while those at Jagráon, Gujrát and Sargodha were carried, through to completion. The Ludhiána water-works were sanctioned and a satisfactory commencement made with the project.

52. Vaccination.

Vaccination.

184. Vaccination operations during the year were considerably retarded by the prevalence of malaria in many districts during the first part of the season and by the very serious increase of plague in the province between January and March. The number of vaccinations performed (705,219) was considerably below the record for the two previous years, though above the average of the preceding quinquennium. The special staff succeeded in increasing their previous record of operations, but this was more than counterbalanced by the falling off in the returns of the district staff. The decrease in re-vaccinations, both among males and females, in spite of the special system under which one-eighth of a district is dealt with every year is disappointing, but is almost entirely due to the causes referred to above. The percentage of success in primary vaccinations has improved, but the results in cases of re-vaccination are not so good as those of the previous year. The glycerinated lymph treated with chloroform manufactured at the Central Vaccine Institute was used in over 176,000 operations and has again proved a marked success, giving the most satisfactory results both in primary and re-vaccination operations.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

[For detailed information see the Annual Report on Public Instruction in the Punjab for 1906-07 and the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, table X, Education, and XII, Printing Presses and Newspapers.]

53. General system of Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 616-35 of the report of 1901-02.)

Public Instruction.

54. Education.

General statistics.

185. The present report deals with a quinquennium which has been marked by considerable departmental activity. Expenditure on education has increased by almost 20 lakhs of rupees, 52 lakhs being the gross total for the year under report. A thousand new teaching establishments have been opened, and the roll of scholars has risen by half a lakh.

In 1907 the number of public institutions was 4,074, with 234,895 pupils. The number of private institutions was 3,710 with 65,342 pupils. In the former 2,266 attended Arts or Professional Colleges, 67,415 attended secondary and 161,546 primary schools. Training and special schools accounted for 3,668 students. Of the private institutions, the advanced schools were attended by 4,174 pupils and the elementary by 61,168. The figures now show that 23·71 of all towns and villages are provided with a school of some sort, and that 16·02 per cent. of the male population and 2·65 of the female population of school-going age are receiving instruction.

General progress.

186. The period has been one of considerable progress. The number of scholars in attendance has increased by more than fifty thousand, and the most prominent feature of the period is the rapid expansion of primary education made possible by the liberal Government grants. The conversion of the municipal board secondary schools at the head-quarters of districts into Government schools has had a beneficial effect on the development of higher education. The reorganization of the Punjab University has added greatly to the efficiency of the colleges. Another noteworthy feature of the period is the growth of female education, despite unfavourable social customs. In this connection the establishment of the Normal School for Women at Lahore deserves mention. It will in a measure remove the one great obstacle in the way of the education of girls, *viz*, want of efficient female teachers. The splitting up of the Province into two circles for the purpose of ensuring a more thorough inspection of girls' schools and the strengthening of the female inspecting staff has had a very salutary effect.

The organization of an athletic tournament for normal schools in addition to the University, Circle and District Tournaments, noticed in previous reports, the provision of a fine gymnasium in connection with the Central Training College, and the erection of swimming baths, the growing number of Teachers' Associations and Schoolboys' Clubs, and the extension of the hostel system, all clearly indicate that the moral and physical development of the pupils has kept pace with the intellectual advance made during the period.

The most important events of the quinquennium were as follows:—

(1) The revision of the Punjab Education Code and the Code for Europeans.

(2) The strengthening of the inspection staff by the addition of one Inspector, 2 Assistant Inspectors, one Inspectress, 2 Assistant Inspectresses and 24 Assistant District Inspectors.

(3) The appointment of a Vice-Principal in the Indian Educational Service and of additional lecturers in Science and Clerical and Commercial subjects in the Central Training College. The reorganization of the staffs of the Normal schools and the extension of the period of study in all Training Institutions.

(4) The creation of Professorships of Chemistry and Biology in the Government College, Lahore.

(5) The establishment of a Government School of Engineering.

(6) The opening of a class in the Central Training College for preparing students for the newly instituted degree of Bachelor of Teaching; and of Commercial Classes in connection with the College and 12 Government High Schools.

(7) The establishment of St. Bede's College at Simla for the training of female European teachers, the starting of training classes in connection with the Auckland House School for young girls and for young men at Sanáwar, where the general staff of the school has also been completely reorganized.

(8) The erection of a handsome Examination Hall, with Syndicate and Committee Rooms; the reconstruction of Bishop Cotton School, Simla, and of some Government High Schools and Normal Schools, with substantial additions to the class-room accommodation at the Central Training College, and the provision of a well-equipped gymnasium and swimming bath in connection with the same institution.

(9) The abolition of the Anglo-Vernacular Middle School and Upper Primary Examinations.

(10) The increase in the number and rate of scholarships given in European schools.

(11) The appointment of a Government Auditor for European schools.

Primary education.

187. The facilities for primary education have been greatly developed in consequence largely of the impulse given by the grant made in 1905 of three lakhs of rupees per annum by Government for this object. Nine hundred new primary schools for boys and 200 for girls have come into existence, and 40,000 more boys and 7,700 more girls are now receiving this stage of education. The abolition of the upper primary certificate which was once regarded as a passport to employment by Government is said to have checked the expansion of numbers in the upper primary departments, but the fact that the number of primary scholars in general has so largely risen is a matter for satisfaction. So too is the increase in the attendance of agriculturists and the development of the attempt to induce parents to allow their girls to receive instruction in boys' schools. The institution of rural schools with a curriculum adapted to the limited requirements of the agricultural population is an experiment which has been adopted to replace the zamindari schools, which had proved a failure. Its success remains to be seen, but it is hoped that a system, which includes instruction in such practical subjects as agriculture and native methods of accounts and will provide the means of rising to secondary schools without interfering with the home-calls of the pupils, will soon become popular. The relief afforded to local bodies by the provincialisation of certain secondary schools will probably result in their evincing more interest in primary education. This question is at present engaging the particular attention of Government, and it is thought that the connection between local bodies, especially district boards, and primary education should probably be made still closer than it is now, though at the same time more independent of departmental control, since the history of local self-government in the province proves indubitably that a too rigorous departmental control is incompatible with the existence of any lively feeling of interest in local administration.

Secondary education.

188. As regards secondary education, the most salient features of the last five years have been the provincializing of the main middle or high school of each district, and the abolition of the Anglo-Vernacular Middle School Examination. The former step meets apparently with no criticism, and it is possible that further action on the same lines might profitably be taken, if no serious financial difficulty is apprehended. There exist in the Province 86 Anglo-Vernacular as against only 110 Vernacular middle schools, and the proportionate reduction (now contemplated) of schools where English is badly taught in comparison with those where a good middle education is imparted through the medium of the Vernacular will probably be a distinct advantage both to the teaching of English in particular and to the cause of education in general.

The Punjab University.

189. The twenty-sixth Convocation of the Punjab University was held in the new University Hall on Friday, the 21st December last, when 163 graduates were admitted to various degrees as compared with 172 in 1901-02. For the first half of the quinquennium the University has no important change to record. While the Universities Commission completed its labours, and the bill, which was passed as the Indian Universities Act of 1904, was still under discussion, all important changes under consideration were deferred until the Act should come into force. The second half of the quinquennium has been mainly occupied by the work of carrying out the provisions of that Act. This work falls under three main heads :—

A.—The reconstitution of the Senate, Faculties, Syndicate, and Subordinate Boards or Committees ;

B.—The affiliation of Colleges ;

C.—The revision of all the Regulations especially as regards examinations.

Various changes in the Senate, Syndicate, Faculties and Boards of Studies have been introduced which have tended to make the constitutional machinery of the University work more smoothly and rapidly. The working of the Boards of Studies occasionally causes delay, but this is likely to be avoided as the new boards settle down to their work, and the system should tend to efficiency in a matter that has so long needed reform.

At the time of the passing of the Indian Universities Act no system of affiliation existed. Proposals had been formulated for a system similar to those in other Indian Universities, but the discussion of details led to so much opposition that the scheme was shelved. The passing of the Act settled the question, and all the colleges previously recognised applied for affiliation, as did also a new institution in Kashmir, and subsequently three more in Simla. Committees of inspection were appointed to report on the condition of these institutions. As a result of the inspection, it was found impossible to adopt any standard of efficiency that could be regarded as at all permanent without excluding the great majority of the institutions inspected. This would have caused a serious set back to college education and seemed opposed to the spirit of section 20 of the Act. A proposal to grant affiliation for two years having been found to be open to legal objections, affiliation was granted in every case, but each institution was called upon by the Syndicate to effect certain improvements within the period of two years.

A revised body of regulations was submitted to Government within a year of the coming into operation of the Act, and this was finally sanctioned. The following are the more important changes :—Two new degrees—Bachelor of Teaching and Master of Science—have been instituted. Candidates qualify for the Degree of Bachelor of Teaching by passing an examination, practical as well as theoretical, after a two years' post-graduate course of study at the Central Training College. This degree, which is intended to attract men of good calibre to the teaching profession, was already awaiting sanction at the time of the passing of the Act, and has been awarded at the last two

Convocations. The Master of Science Degree is the old Master of Arts in a Science subject under a new name. It represents another step in the gradual creation of a highly specialised Science side of instruction. Two diplomas—Licentiate-in-Laws and Licentiate-in-Medicine and Surgery—are being replaced by the Degree of Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, respectively. The Oriental examinations in Law and Medicine have been removed from the regulations. Throughout the quinquennium the practice of wandering from college to college and joining classes at any time of the year has become increasingly difficult. Every University student is now registered and his whole University career is recorded against his name, including dates of joining classes and success or failure in examinations. The registered number is now being used instead of the name in lists of candidates supplied to Examiners.

The new University Hall has been completed at a cost of Rs. 1,54,000, and is now used for Convocation and examinations. The University Library is being practically refounded on a new scale, thanks to a special grant from the Government of India. As to finance, the first four years of the quinquennium show a serious decline in prosperity, bnt in spite of a special grant of Rs. 24,000 from the Government of India to meet the deficit of one year, and the subsequent grant of Rs. 10,000 per annum to meet the cost of inspection, travelling expenses and general administration, the University did not always make both ends meet.

Arts Colleges.

190. There are 9 Arts (English) Colleges and one Oriental College as compared with 12 and 1 in 1901-02, which are attended by 1,508 students as compared with 1,244. The number of candidates appearing in the several examinations was 1,023 with 409 passes as compared with 689 candidates and 398 passes in 1901-02. The percentages of passes in the Intermediate, B. A. and M. A. Examinations were 49, 42·12 and 42·5, respectively, and in the Science Faculty in the Intermediate and B. Sc. Examinations they were 42 and 25, respectively.

Expenditure has risen during the quinquennium by Rs. 86,162 to Rs. 2,56,429. To the total expenditure Provincial Revenues contributed Rs. 93,473, District and Municipal Funds Rs. 2,091, Fees Rs. 82,725, Subscriptions Rs. 18,054, and Endowments and Other Sources Rs. 60,086.

All the colleges show a satisfactory increase in the number of students and in the expenditure incurred. At the Government College the staff has been strengthened by the addition of Professors of Chemistry and Biology and Assistant Professors of Biology, Philosophy and Physics. St. Stephens' College, Delhi, has been enlarged, more especially in the direction of increased accommodation in boarding houses. The Islamia College, Lahore, is in a more flourishing condition than formerly, and has purchased a site for new buildings. The most common defect is still the lack of properly constructed laboratories and of sufficient provision for practical instruction in Science.

Training Colleges.

191. The institutions for the training of teachers are the Central Training College, Lahore, for the training of teachers for secondary departments of schools and Anglo-Vernacular teachers for primary departments; Normal Schools for males at Lahore, Delhi, Multán, Jullundur and Ráwalpindi, where Vernacular teachers for primary schools and departments are trained; a Normal School for Women at Lahore which trains for Vernacular appointments in primary and secondary girls' schools, and St. Bede's College and Auckland House, Simla, which train female teachers for European schools. The three institutions for training female teachers did not exist in 1901-02. Of these, St. Bede's College is intended for the higher education of women as well as for the training of teachers. In addition to the above, there are training classes for girls attached to several schools. A training class was opened after the close of the quinquennium for male teachers in European schools at Sanáwar.

Special schools.

192. In the schools for special education the most marked feature is the development in, and popularity of, the female medical school at Ludhiána and the Mayo School of Art at Lahore. It is admitted that the Government School of Engineering is not yet organised on a satisfactory basis, but it has already managed to obtain employment for 50 per cent. of its passed students. The evening continuation classes recently started give good promise for the future both in respect of popularity and of efficiency, and the development of commercial instruction both in English and in Vernacular is an important innovation, which may prove of considerable value. The indigenous and other industrial schools continue to do good work, and provide for classes which for obvious reasons are often unable to profit by the teaching of the more regular schools.

Female education.

193. The development of female education occupies a prominent place in the present report. Rapid progress in this branch was, from the nature of things, not to be expected in view of the many difficulties which the movement had to face, but the expansion of female schools and the increasing interest evinced by all classes alike in the importance of the education of girls is one of the most interesting and satisfactory features of the quinquennium. Five new secondary and two hundred and sixteen new primary schools for girls have been opened. Of the districts where female education is most popular five out of six belong to the Central Punjab. The south-eastern part of the Province, in spite of the efforts of the various missionary bodies, is still very backward. In the west of the Province the movement in favour of female education has had to contend with the ravages made by plague among teachers and pupils alike, but the Inspectress is nevertheless able to report the very gratifying increase of 68 per cent. in the number of female scholars. There is a most satisfactory growth in the number of Gurmukhi schools, and also of indigenous institutions for females, but it is clear that until the supply of satisfactory teachers is more adequate the rapid development of the movement for which the Province is ripening cannot be attained. Mixed classes for boys and girls have not made much progress; but the experiment is being continued.

European education.

194. The record of the development of European education is marked by the grant of Rs. 27,000 annually, and by the appointment of a qualified auditor to systematize the accounts of the schools. The numbers of institutions and scholars have remained practically stationary. A slight shrinkage in the number of schools is due to the policy of concentration recently adopted. In spite of the large number of pupils which appear to be attracted to the Punjab schools from other provinces, the state of European education is, owing to financial insecurity and the consequent difficulty of securing and retaining a good teaching staff, still far from satisfactory. The financial position of the aided institutions cannot be accurately ascertained until the results of the scientific audit are before Government, but it is to be hoped that when the financial situation is clearly set forth, it may be possible to allot the recurring grant to greater advantage than is the case at present. The lack of male teachers is a real difficulty, and at present no practical solution can be suggested.

Muhammadans.

195. The advance made by the Muhammadan community in education is very marked. The efforts of Government to stimulate this section of the people in a desire for the advantages of the public educational institutions have, it would appear, begun to awaken a response among the leaders of Musalman society, and it is to be hoped that the interest now aroused will be maintained.

Education in Native States.

196. The following statistics show the improvement which has taken place in the number of institutions, attendance of pupils, and results of examinations in Native States. The number of Arts Colleges is 3, the same as in 1901-02. The attendance has risen by 32. The number of public schools has risen by 96, the net result of an increase of 7 secondary Anglo-Vernacular schools, and of 95 primary schools for general education, and a decrease of 6 special schools. The attendance has gone up by 1,310 and 3,942 in secondary Anglo-Vernacular and primary schools, respectively, and has fallen by 136 in special

schools. The indigenous schools are fewer by 311 with an attendance smaller by 1,377 pupils: 1,063 more pupils now learn English. The number of boys has risen by 3,349 and of girls by 229. The total male population of these States is now 2,409,809, so that 1 in 149 is under instruction.

For the M. A. Examination there was no candidate. In the B. A. Examination 3 out of 10 passed, against 2 out of 8 in 1901-02. These 3 belonged to the Patiala State, which had sent up 7 candidates, the other 3 being from Kapurthala and Maler Kotla. In the Intermediate Examination 15 out of 46 were successful against 21 out of 51. In the Matriculation Examination 89 out of 229 passed on the Arts side, and one (the only candidate) on the Oriental side, against 62 out of 187 and 2 out of 3, respectively, five years ago. The Vernacular Middle School Examination secured 41 passes out of 70, against 79 out of 150. Including the Titles Examinations and the Clerical and Commercial Examination for male teachers, altogether 161 out of 389 passed.

Boarding-houses.

197. Compared with the earlier period, there is an appreciable increase in the number of hostels and their inmates. The total expenditure on these institutions has also risen by about 33 per cent. The number of hostels attached to colleges has increased by 50 per cent., while that of residents has nearly doubled in the course of the five years Throughout the Province every year sees improvement in the management of boarding-houses in one respect or another; and now no grant is paid on account of any boarding-house unless the Inspector is thoroughly satisfied that the locality is respectable, the sanitation sufficient, the rooms properly lighted by day and night and well furnished, and the private study of the pupils effectively supervised.

Discipline and Moral Training.

198. Physical training forms an essential part of the course of instruction followed in all Government, Board and Aided institutions for males, other than those of the indigenous type. In recognised Unaided schools too the importance of the physical side of education is being more and more realised. The departmental courses of physical training have been recast so as to provide for *desi kasrat*, or the indigenous system of athletics—a system admirably suited to the young Indian pupils and one, moreover, which requires no apparatus. Circle and other tournaments have become more popular, and the greatest enthusiasm, which unfortunately leads on some occasions to ill-feeling and accusations of unfairness, is shown at these periodical gatherings.

In colleges physical training has made a distinct advance. Cricket, football, and hockey are very much in favour. An extensive piece of ground has been assigned by Government to the University and the Government College, and a fine swimming-bath for the latter institution is in course of construction. The Central Training College also has now its own swimming-bath and well-equipped gymnasium. The improvement in the tone and discipline of the schools and the behaviour of pupils has on the whole kept pace with the advance made in physical training. The more extended employment of trained teachers; the stricter application of the inter-school rules introduced at the commencement of the period under review, and the consequent weeding out of inefficient schools; the recent strengthening of the inspecting staff; the organisation of teachers' associations and students' clubs; the gradual extension of the hostel system; singing and the recitation of moral pieces of poetry—all these have had an elevating influence on the manners and morals of the pupils and the general tone of the schools. At the same time the manners of the boys when out of school and no longer under the direct control of their teachers still leave a good deal to be desired.

55. Literature and the Press.

Literature.

199. The total number of books and periodicals published during the year was 1,772, a marked decrease of 187 as compared with 1905. Urdu continues to claim the largest number of publications, namely, 708; Punjábi with 523 comes next as usual. The number of Hindi books is rising steadily.

Religion, as heretofore, is the favourite subject. "The Brahma Darshan," an exhaustive exposition of the religious beliefs of the Hindus, embodies the fruits of forty years' study by a gentleman of Delhi at the feet of great teachers. Similarly, the "Tajalmalúk," by an ancient Muhammadan saint, contains a series of luminous discourses on the principles of Islám. On a humbler plane, but none-the-less noteworthy, is the 'Sadharan Dharam' of Swami Shivgan, a succinct dissertation on the religious and moral duties of man. The year has been very fruitful in translations. Apart from the Mahábhárat and the Rámáyan of last year, parts of which still continue to be issued, the "Satyárth Parkásh" of Swami Dayanand has been rendered into English by Dr. C. Bhargava. "Zubdat-ul-Salikin," an Urdu version of the "Ghaniatul-Talibin," a standard work on Muhammadan law and religion, may also be mentioned. Intimately connected with religion are the old fashioned "Janam Sákhís" and "Tazkiras," lives and teaching of great Sikh and Muslim divines. These have little or no sense of proportion or of historical accuracy, but they have considerable hold on the popular mind, as is evidenced by the number of times they are reprinted. Moreover, these chronicles offer good material for fairly readable biographies, such as M. Firoz-ud-din's lives of the Caliphs Abubakar and Umar. Bhagat Ram Deva's life, issued by the Khalsa Tract Society, is also a work of the same type. In poetry there are signs of the growth of a new spirit. The Swádeshi and other movements that are stirring the minds of the people seem to have infused fresh life into the dry bones of Urdu poetry, as is shown by the appearance of the "Bhárat Darpan" by Pandit Braj Mohan Dattatreya, and a number of other poems imbued with these new ideas. The "Bhárat Darpan" is perhaps the most important poem of the year, both as regards form and matter. The poet seems to have thoroughly grasped the present situation. He minutely examines the present social and industrial condition of the Indian people, and points out that the remedy rests mainly with themselves.

Newspapers.

200. There were 257 newspapers published during the year. Of these 47 were published in English, 183 in Urdu, 1 in Urdu-Arabic, 1 in Hindi-Urdu, 11 in Hindi, 13 in Gurmukhi (Punjábi) and 1 in Tibetan. Five English and 39 Vernacular newspapers were started and 5 English and 42 Vernacular ceased to exist during the year, leaving a total of 210 on the register. One paper was published half-yearly, 2 quarterly, 102 monthly, 29 twice a month, 3 thrice a month, 105 weekly, 5 twice a week and 1 thrice a week. There were 9 daily papers.

Press prosecutions.

201. A prosecution was instituted against the proprietor and editor of the *Punjabee* under section 153 A, Indian Penal Code, for publishing articles intended to cause ill-feeling between classes, and both were sentenced to undergo six months' simple imprisonment. The editor and printer of the *Tribune* were also prosecuted by an officer of the Indian Medical Service for defamation and the case was not concluded at the end of the year.

56. Literary Societies.

202. [See Report for 1901-02. The subject will not be dealt with again till 1911-12.]

57. Arts and Sciences.

Lahore Museum.

203. The year has been one of steady progress, and the Curator reports that in many respects the Museum is nearing completion. Considerable progress has been made in the labelling and classification of the geological and natural history specimens. The numismatic branch has been improved by the completion of the collection of electrotype copies of coins of the Punjab, struck at various periods of its history; and a guide book to the Archæological Department has been completed by the Curator. Another remarkable feature

of the year has been the re-arrangement and enlarging of the fine arts section. This branch now contains a complete set of portraits of the Viceroys of India, a set, not quite complete, of those of the Lieutenant-Governors of the Punjab, and an interesting selection of pictures of various Punjab celebrities, Indian and European. The attendance of the public generally remained stationary, but there was a marked rise in the number of female visitors. The Museum continues popular, and the conduct of the visiting public was satisfactory. Expenditure rose from Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 18,000, the Government grant having raised by Rs. 3,000 and a special grant of Rs. 9,000 having been made for building improvements.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

[Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the following publications:—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for 1906-07; Annual Progress Reports of the Archæological Survey, Punjab and United Provinces Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1907.]

58. Archæology.

204. The Superintendent inspected the temple of Sakti Devi in the Chamba State which suffered severely in the earthquake of 1905. This building, like the image it enshrines, dates back to the beginning of the 8th century and is of great antiquarian value. It was found that the temporary measures taken for its preservation were quite inadequate, and detailed suggestions were made for permanent repairs to the Darbar. In the same way the Kashmir State was advised how best to preserve and restore the ancient monuments at the present city of Babor which represents the ruined old Babbapura, the ancient capital of the Dogras. Eight pictures and one brass statuette of the Lamaistic cult were acquired for the Lahore Museum.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

[See page 189 of the report for the year 1901-02. The Bishop also exercises ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the Persian Gulf.]

60. Ecclesiastical.

205. The various ecclesiastical institutions were noticed in the report for the year 1901-02. During the year under report, the restoration of the church at Dharmsala on its original lines was sanctioned, and the future maintenance of St. Margaret's church at Murree was undertaken by the Punjab Government at the instance of the Government of India.

61. Stationery.

206. The Punjab Administration draws its supply of stationery from the Calcutta stores. The value of stationery issued to officers in the Punjab during the year aggregated Rs. 1,80,910 as against Rs. 1,38,044 in the previous year. The details are as follows :—Cost of printing paper Rs. 44,512, office stationery Rs. 1,35,363 and padlocks Rs. 1,035 against Rs. 51,292, Rs. 85,501 and Rs. 1,251, respectively, last year.

62. Government Press.

207. The following statement compares the income and expenditure with the value of work turned out during the years 1905-06 and 1906-07 :—

Income.		Expenditure.		Value of work.	
1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
18,741	17,339	1,25,343	1,34,306	1,19,846	1,23,376

The income of the Press during the year under report was Rs. 17,339 as against Rs. 18,741 in the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,34,306 against Rs. 1,25,343 in 1905-06. The cost of work done by the Contractors for Government Printing for departments and offices during 1906-07 was Rs. 1,23,376 as against Rs. 1,19,846.

PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT, 1907-1908.

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Manager, Punjab Law Book Depôt, Anárkali Bazar, Lahore.

S. Mumtaz Ali & Son, Rafah-i-'Am Press, Lahore [for Vernacular Publications only].

Manager, The Aryan Printing, Publishing and General Trading Co., Limited, Lahore.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1907-1908.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1907-08.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(The "year" throughout this report is not invariably the financial year ending 31st March 1908. At the heading of each chapter, with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1908, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1907, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1907.

The Administration Report for 1901-02 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.)

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel of the Administration.

1. Sir Thomas Gordon Walker, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., officiated as Lieutenant-Governor from the 22nd of May to the 11th of August 1907, inclusive, during the absence on leave of Sir Denzil Charles Jelf Ibbetson, K.C.S.I. Sir Thomas Gordon Walker again assumed charge as Temporary Lieutenant-Governor on the 23rd January 1908, relieving Sir Denzil Charles Jelf Ibbetson who retired from the service. It has, with the deepest regret, to be recorded that Sir Denzil Ibbetson died in England within a month of his retirement.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES.

Political.

2. The most important events of the year were the marriage on the 9th March 1908 of Maharaja Bhupindra Singh of Patiála to the daughter of Sardar Gurnam Singh of Sangrúr and the formal recognition in Darbar on

the 15th May 1907 of Nawab Sadik Muhammad Khan, Abbasi, V, of Bahawalpur. The administration of the States proceeded smoothly on the whole except in Suket where the friction between the Raja and his officials continued.

Administration of the Land.

Land revenue.

3. The year 1906-07 was on the whole satisfactory from an agricultural point of view. The area sown was 9 per cent. above normal, but the outturn of the principal staples was somewhat disappointing. Some damage was done to cotton by the boll-worm, and the wheat harvest, which at first promised to be excellent, was blighted by untimely rain. The collections of revenue were good, 97·4 per cent. of the fixed land revenue demand being collected. The recent quinquennial analysis of agricultural statistics has shown the history of the past five years to be one of general progress in the extension of cultivation and of irrigation, and a noteworthy feature has been the increase of fluctuating as compared with fixed land revenue. The latter is now $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs less than it was in 1901-02, while the former, which then stood at $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., is now $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the whole demand; this result is largely attributable to the extension of canal irrigation.

Surveys and settlements.

4. The conclusion of settlement operations in Hazára completes the settlement work in the North-West Frontier Province for which the Punjab Settlement Department was responsible. Otherwise there has been nothing remarkable in the administration of the year. In the making of village maps, particularly in avoiding cumulative errors, the work done by the Survey Department in traversing large areas and laying down base lines at intervals is likely to be of the greatest value.

Land Alienation Act.

5. In last year's report it was noted that, for the first time since the passing of the Land Alienation Act, a part of the province had been exposed to famine conditions, but that the contraction of credit which resulted had not been sufficient to unduly embarrass the cultivator; in other words, that the Act had justified itself even in a year of scarcity. In the present year the Financial Commissioner has taken the occasion to review the working of the Act since it came into force. The conclusions arrived at have been stated in the body of this report, and are in general that the Act is universally popular among agricultural classes and that it has had the effect of very materially reducing the transfers of land into the hands of the non-agricultural community. In the words of the Financial Commissioner the Act "has earned the universal approval and gratitude of the hereditary landowners of the Punjab, some three millions in number, and has shown them that Government sympathises with their dearest wish, which is to hand on their ancestral land to their children's children." On the other hand, it appears that the non-agricultural classes have little difficulty in finding profitable investments for their capital in other directions, as in the purchase of town lands, in the distribution of produce and in the establishment of markets and factories. The income-tax returns afford no reason for supposing that their net profits have been seriously reduced.

Court of Wards.

6. Turning to the working of another piece of "paternal" legislation, the Court of Wards Act, the results are found to be equally satisfactory. During the year the estate of Kot Shera was released; it had been for 19

years under the management of the Court of Wards and when taken over was burdened with debt to the extent of Rs. 21,592. This debt was entirely discharged, numerous improvements were made in the property, additional lands of the value of Rs. 45,000 were acquired and a surplus of Rs. 37,384 was handed over to the ward who is now an Honorary Magistrate and Zaildar (circle headman). Similar progress has been made in the case of other estates.

Registration and land records.

7. During the last nine years there has been a very remarkable fall in the registration of optionally registrable deeds. There has not been a diminution of small transfers of rights of land, and as these transfers are largely made on account of deeds which are optionally registrable, the conclusion is that more trust is placed in the revenue mutation records. This fact is interesting in itself as evidence of an increased sense of security, and it also indicates the possibility of some simplication in the process of registering compulsorily registrable deeds. At present, if a right in land of over Rs. 100 in value is transferred by purchase, etc., the transfer has to be recorded in the revenue records and the deed has also to be registered separately.

Colonies.

8. In the Administration Report for 1901-02 an account was given of the wonderful development of the colonies started by Government, and they have continued to develop since then. The inability of the railway administration to cope with the grain traffic, while unfortunate in itself, is at the same time an index of the rapid growth of traffic in the Chenab. Allotment of lands in all the colonies has now almost been completed, and an area of over $2\frac{3}{4}$ million acres, nearly all of which is culturable and irrigable, has been allotted, markets and roads continue to progress, and the system of grants-in-aid and rewards for sanitary improvements seems to be providing a stimulus to cleanlier habits in villages. In this connection it is interesting to note that the Janglis (the original nomadic inhabitants of the tract) obtained 8 of the 20 rewards distributed. In connection with the fact that, as noted in last year's report, a Bill for the administration of the colonies raised opposition and was vetoed by the Governor-General in Council, a Commission was appointed in October 1907 to inquire into, and report on, numerous matters of administration. The Commission submitted its report in April 1908.

During the year there has been nothing very remarkable to record as regards administration, but the increased cost of labour has become a serious problem. Although in some of the more remote parts of the Punjab customary rates of wages still prevail, yet there has been a steady rise in the wages of unskilled and skilled labour in most districts, and this rise has become more accentuated in recent years owing to the ravages of plague. The fact has been frequently noted in the departmental reports and the state of affairs compared to the economic revolution which took place in England after the Black Death. In Amritsar district the average wage in 1883 of an able-bodied agricultural labourer was Rs. 6 per mensem and that of a common mason, carpenter, or blacksmith Rs. 12·62; in 1893 these figures had risen to Rs. 7 and Rs. 14·5, respectively; in 1903 to Rs. 8 and Rs. 15; and in 1907 stood at Rs. 8 and Rs. 25. In the colony districts, owing to rapid development and also to the partial absence of customary wages, the increase has been even more marked, and at harvest time even boys were refusing 12 annas a day. This, perhaps, is abnormal, but is serious and the experiment of introducing reaping machines, adverted to in the body of this report, will be watched with interest.

PROTECTION.

Police and criminal justice.

9. The year has been a normal one except as regards the period of political unrest in the early summer of 1907 which manifested itself in riots at Lahore and Rāwalpindi, in seditious articles in certain newspapers, and in more overt acts calculated to discredit Government, such as the fouling of wells. The unrest was due partly to the prevalence of plague and high prices and partly to agitation against certain measures of Government, such as the Colonization Bill (referred to in paragraph 46 of last year's report) and the proposed enhancement of the occupiers' rates on the Bari Doab Canal. It was found necessary in May 1907 to deport two of the agitators under Regulation III of 1818. As a result of this measure, of prosecutions in connection with the riots, and of legislation dealing with public meetings of a seditious character, the feeling of unrest had by the autumn considerably abated, in November the deported agitators were released, and it was decided that the Seditious Meetings Act (No. VI of 1907) should not be applied to this province. In the more normal kinds of crime there was neither a substantial increase nor decrease, and the percentage of convictions remains much the same. A satisfactory feature of the year's administration has been the continued and increased co-operation between the police of different districts and of Native States and the aid rendered by Honorary Magistrates and Zaildars (circle headmen).

Prisons.

10. Passing from what may be termed the objective to the subjective treatment of crime, the most noteworthy feature is the increased attention which is being paid year by year to the separation of habitual from non-habitual criminals and also to the reform of youthful criminals. The present prison accommodation in the Punjab does not permit of that complete segregation which is desirable to prevent the contamination of the non-habitual classes, but this is done to some extent and is helped by an increasing use of fines as a means of punishment in such cases, or by release on security under the provisions of section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The numbers in the Reformatory School at Delhi also continue to increase. A great improvement in this respect will be made when the Ludhiāna Central Jail is constructed, but this scheme is estimated to cost some eight lakhs and accordingly has had to be postponed.

Civil justice.

11. The number of matrimonial and guardianship cases (Act VIII of 1890) continues very high, and the amount of time which District Judges require to spend over the latter is a serious problem. During the year there has been a satisfactory improvement in the execution of decrees, probably due to the instructions issued by the Chief Court to ensure the methodical distribution of execution cases.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

District boards and municipalities.

12. The advance of local self-government is slow, and the direction of the activities of many local bodies, if not the activities themselves, continues to depend largely on the inclination and zeal of the local officials. The difficulties in the way, such as indifference to, or corrupt practices at, elections, diffidence in differing from officials, etc., have been dealt with in the decennial Administration Report for 1901-02. It has been proposed that monthly meetings should be held in every district so as to secure the more efficient discharge of executive functions. There are, however, some signs

of awakening interest in members of boards towards their duties and responsibilities, and one of these is the progress which is being made in the pushing on of public works, the construction of schools and hospitals, and the improvement of roads.

Another sign is increased efficiency of sub-committees, and in this connection it has been remarked that "the utilization of sub-committees imbued with a due sense of practical responsibility must become a more prominent feature of municipal administration if the latter is to discharge its functions in an adequate manner."

The number of provident funds continues to increase, and it is hoped that in time these will become universal; by means of them an improvement in the status of municipal and district board employees should be effected and an encouragement to long service given. The model rules framed by Government have been generally approved, with the exception that it has been found desirable that local bodies should contribute cent. per cent. with the subscriptions of their servants; the original rules merely provided for a 50 per cent. contribution.

The system of each religious community electing its own representatives has been extended to Rewári and Ambála, so as to equalize the number of Hindu and Muhammadan members of the committees. This system, where it has been tried in the Punjab, has proved popular and successful, as it removes a frequent cause of friction and secures the representation of minorities.

In taxation there has been no remarkable change, and a substitute for octroi that will meet the conditions of the province has still to be devised.

Agriculture, Weather and Crops.

Operations of the Department of Agriculture.

13. The Agricultural College at Lyallpur has not yet been opened, but will be opened from 1st July 1909. The staff of European experts is now complete, and experiments have been made, which have already led to results of some importance. Progress is being made in the introduction of agricultural machinery suitable for the Indian farmer.

The Veterinary Department.

14. A change has been made in the administration of the veterinary department, by which there is only one man itinerating in each district, while the rest are stationary in the hospitals. The year, owing to drought, was a particularly healthy one for animals, though their condition was not so good as it should have been. The supply of green fodder was small owing to the poor agricultural conditions.

Agricultural pests.

15. Boll-worm was extremely rare, but the study of the worm and its parasites is being continued.

Loans to agriculturists and co-operative credit societies.

16. Loans made by Government were much less than in the previous year. But in the two years preceding the one under report abnormal agricultural conditions and the Kángra earthquake necessitated large loans by Government. Recoveries of the loans are being duly made. At the same time substantial progress is being made in co-operative credit societies. Their assets have risen from $2\frac{3}{4}$ to $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees, and the amount of capital out on loan to members is twice as great as last year. It speaks well for the enterprise and prosperity of the Chenab colonist that better progress was made in Lyallpur than in any other district.

Prices.

17. Prices rose rapidly with the failure of the monsoon and the active demand for grain in the United Provinces, and the surplus grain of the province was disposed of at very high prices.

Weather and crops.

18. The features of this year were the premature termination of the monsoon, the late arrival and inadequacy of the winter rains, and the drought of February and March. A serious shortage of water was recorded in all the canals. In the autumn crop the normal area was placed under cotton, as there was little apprehension of a recurrence of boll-worm. The spring crop of 1907-08 was much smaller than in the previous year, in all districts, as the sudden termination of the monsoon left the soil too dry for sowings on unirrigated land, and caused a short supply in canals.

Forests.

Management.

19. The area under the management of the Forest Department shows a slight increase, but the work was hindered by drought. The difficulty of protecting forests from damage by sheep and goats is growing more marked.

Exploitation and financial results.

20. There is still a shortage of railway wagons and it is being found advisable to extend the use of purchasers' agency in the case of wood sold. The total revenue shows a decrease, but this is attributable to the retrocession of the Chamba forests.

Mines and Quarries.

21. The province is unable to supply more than a small part of the coal used by the North-Western Railway.

Manufactures.

22. The total number of factories has increased from 235 to 253. The number of gins has outrun the available supply of cotton, but flour and rice mills are also becoming popular. The general condition of the factories is good. An interesting monograph published during the year shows the state of iron and steel industries in the Punjab.

Trade.

Trade in India.

23. Exports show an extraordinary increase, representing not so much the agricultural conditions for the province as a whole, as the great demand for food-grains in the United Provinces and Bengal. In spite of the bad harvests, the wheat export reached nearly one million tons. Imports also show a large increase, the most striking being in European cotton piece-goods which increased by 143 lakhs, while Indian goods showed a decrease of 64 lakhs.

Trans-frontier trade.

24. The change in the methods of registration of the trans-frontier trade forbids any real appreciation of statistics. Trade with Tibet and Ladákh cannot grow unless the roads, bridges and serais are much improved.

Joint Stock Companies.

25. The number of companies has increased, as well as their capital, both nominal and paid-up.

Public Works.

General.

26. The new office for the Accountant-General at Lahore was nearly completed; the Public Works Secretariat offices at Lahore were completed. Several works were completed chiefly in the Jhelum colony and the Lyallpur district for the Army Remount Department. Residences were built in

various places for Government officials. The expenditure on roads shows a decrease, but this is due to half the outlay on new feeder roads having been debited against district funds.

Railways.

27. There was a large increase in the number of passengers carried by the North-Western Railway, and the percentage of working expenses to gross earnings slightly decreased. Surveys were completed for 358·32 miles of line on the 5′ 6″ gauge and about ½ a mile on the 2′ 6″ gauge, the latter being for an extension of the Kálka-Simla Railway beyond its present terminus in Simla. In the former, 195·55 miles surveyed were for the doubling of existing line, while the doubling of 208 miles was actually completed. A length of 55·57 miles, from Sángla Hill to Shahdára (near Lahore), was added during the year.

The Delhi Electric Tramways were opened on the 3rd June 1908.

Irrigation.

28. The net profit of the year shows a considerable falling-off, due to the partial failure of the monsoon and low supplies in the rivers during the rabi season, and heavy special remissions on the Lower Chenab and Upper Bari Doab canals of charges on wheat and gram crops ruined by untimely rains. Work was continued on the large projects for the Upper Chenab and Upper Jhelum Canals. The drought, which was so disastrous in other ways, helped very much the works in hand and the manufacture of materials.

Revenue and expenditure.

29. The revenue raised in the province was 78·38 lakhs less than last financial year. The figures are given in detail in section 36. The large decrease in *Land Revenue* (in the *financial* year 1907-08) was due to the failure of the autumn harvest of 1907, necessitating suspensions of revenue on a large scale. Under *Stamps* the increase is mainly due to increased litigation consequent on the institution of suits which has been delayed owing to the extended period of limitation conferred by the Punjab Limitation Act. Under *Excise* the increase is due to increased consumption and also to keen competition at auctions and increased duty on coloured and sophisticated liquor. In expenditure the main items in the increase of over 22 lakhs are those shown under *Public Works*, *Irrigation*, *Police* and *Medical*. The finances of local boards and municipalities have been discussed in the body of the report.

Vital Statistics.

Births and deaths.

30. In the body of the report figures have been given which show the terrible loss of life due to the ravages of plague which have caused the death-rate in 1907 to rise to 62·1 per 1,000. This death-rate is the highest recorded since the establishment of the system of registration forty-one years ago. The death-rate from plague was almost equal to the aggregate death-rate from all other causes and in Gujránwála actually rose to 80·6 per 1,000. The enormous loss of life caused by plague in the Punjab since 1902 when it first broke out in a severe epidemic form up to 1907 has well nigh decimated the province. It is also responsible along with malarial fever for a diminution in the birth-rate which was 40·8 per 1,000 or 2·9 per 1,000 less than that of 1906.

Medical Relief.

31. Towards the end of 1907 the late Sir Denzil Ibbetson ordered a general survey of existing medical arrangements in the province, and it is hoped that the data now being furnished by Civil Surgeons will enable the Punjab Government to inaugurate a scheme for improving the hospitals and dispensaries, many of which are badly housed, inadequately supplied with drugs and poorly equipped in other respects. Meanwhile the number of dispensaries continues to increase, having risen to 395 at the end of 1905 to 414 at the close of 1906 and to 425 at the end of 1907. Arrangements have also been made to enable private subscribers to earmark their contributions for particular objects, and thus each subscriber will be able to see for himself the good he is doing for his fellowmen and will continue to have a personal interest in his subscription which was lacking before when his money was a mere donation to the funds of the district board, a body to which no particular sentiment can attach. Other matters of less general interest, such as the improved facilities given to Assistant Surgeons and Hospital Assistants for keeping their knowledge up to date, have been dealt with elsewhere.

Sanitation.

32. Sanitation continues to make slow progress in the province. In the villages there has been practically no improvement; large sums are spent privately on the construction of wells, tanks, and travellers' resting places, but these sums are spent more from religious motives in the narrower sense than from philanthropy, and the actual method of expenditure is not too well supervised by the donor with a view to securing the maximum of benefit. No direct sanitary improvements have been made, though the necessity of them has been proved year by year in the plague epidemics. The villagers, on the whole, manifest little or no interest in the matter, are with difficulty persuaded to take elementary precautions against plague or malaria, and none of the rewards offered in places by district boards for improvement in sanitation were earned. In the colonies, where Government rules have helped to stimulate interest, some rewards were distributed as has been recorded elsewhere.

In the towns a somewhat less unsatisfactory state of affairs prevails owing to the presence of officials and municipal committees. Sanitary works under construction have made progress during the year, but in the maintenance of existing works an absence of zeal is manifest. The open system of drainage was adopted for the Punjab after most careful consideration, but it appears that unless some special efforts are made to reorganize the scavenging and flushing establishments of municipalities, these drainage systems will prove of doubtful benefit. In the meantime the Sanitary Engineer has reported that "with very few exceptions, the outfall drains and disposal works which were inspected were not well maintained. Local bodies do not appear to take the interest in sanitation they should, and there seems to be no systematic management of the scavenging staff."

Education.

33. In last year's Administration Report an account of educational progress during the preceding quinquennium was given, and since then progress has continued. The "practical" side of education is becoming

more popular as is indicated, on the one hand, by a large increase in the number of industrial and technical schools and by the fact that admissions into the Engineering School had to be restricted, and, on the other hand, by the success of the new "rural" schools where, by the teaching of the native system of accounts in place of Persian, the youthful zamindar may learn to protect himself from rash pecuniary transactions against which his father has had to be protected by objective legislation in the shape of the Land Alienation Act. The field of employment naturally determines the trend of students towards particular branches of education; thus the legal profession being at present overstocked accounts in part for the increased popularity of scientific and technical education. As remarked in a recent Government review, employment under local boards and municipal committeees forms an opening for Indian Engineers, and "there can be little doubt that the future extension of medical practice in rural tracts must be largely in the hands of the private practitioner." An interesting experiment in applied education is being made at the Forman Christian College, Lahore, where the pupils are encouraged to perform "social services," as for instance in village talks on sanitation, encouragement of primary schools, discouragement of litigation, etc.

Female education.

34. The number of schools has increased from 561 to 607 and of scholars from 21,769 to 23,588, and there are many other signs of progress. An increasing number of Christian girls are endeavouring to go beyond the Anglo-Vernacular High Standard and two have gone to England or America from the Punjab to complete their education. The strongest and most important movement at present is that of the educated Hindu and Muhammadan classes for the higher education of their daughters, and popular prejudice against female education appears to be lessening.

35. With regard to discipline and moral training, last year's report may be referred to.

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PART II.

LIBRARY
OF THE
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SOCIETY

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1. Physical Features of the Country, Area and Climate.

(See pages 1—12 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

2. Historical Summary.

(See pages 12—32 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

3. Form of Administration.

(See pages 32—35 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 35—43 of the report for the year 1901-02 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5. Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 44 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 45—53 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

7. Changes in the Administration.

Personnel.

1. Sir Thomas Gordon Walker, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., officiated as Lieutenant-Governor from the 22nd of May to the 11th of August 1907, during the absence on leave of Sir Denzil Charles Jelf Ibbetson, K.C.S.I. Sir Thomas Gordon Walker again assumed charge as temporary Lieutenant-Governor on the 23rd of January 1908, relieving Sir Denzil Charles Jelf Ibbetson, who retired from the service. It has with the deepest regret to be recorded that Sir Denzil Ibbetson died in England within a month of his retirement.

Area, population and revenue of the Punjab.

2. The area of the province according to the latest returns is 97,394 square miles, its population (census of 1901) is 20,340,372, and the land revenue collections 248 lakhs of rupees.

8. Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Political supervision.

3. The arrangements for the purposes of supervision of the Native States in the Punjab remain as they were at the time of the last report, Baháwalpur being included with the Phulkián States in the charge of a Political Agent. The States, with the exception of Chamba, which is in the political charge of the Commissioner of Lahore, are arranged in four groups as follows:—I, the Phulkián States, comprising the States of Patiála, Jínd and Nábha, for which a separate Political Agent was appointed on the 16th January 1901, and in whose charge Baháwalpur is now included; II, the States of Kapúrthala, Mandi, Máler Kotla, Farídkot and Suket in the political charge of the Commissioner of Jullundur; III, the States of Sirmúr, Kalsia, Pataudi, Loháru and Dujána in the political charge of the Commissioner of Delhi; and IV, the States of Biláspur, Bashahr, Nálagarh, Keonthal and numerous other small States in the Simla Hills, which are in the charge of the Superintendent of Hill States, Simla.

Perhaps the noteworthy event of the year was the marriage on 9th March 1908 of Maharaja Bhupindra Singh of Patiála to the daughter of Sardar Gurnam Singh of Sangrúr.

The Raja of Farídkot who is still at the Aitchison College was betrothed to the daughter of Sardar Jiwan Singh, C.S.I., of Shahzádpur, in the Ambála district, who is related to the ruling family of Patiála by marriage. The young Nawab of Baháwalpur was formally installed in Darbar on 15th May 1907.

A new palace of a very large and costly nature is nearing completion in Kapúrthala, and a large building, known as 'Darbar House,' was finished in Mandi.

As illustrating the material progress of the country it is interesting to see that a hydro-electric water-works scheme, estimated to cost 10½ lakhs, has been commenced in Patiála, and it is hoped that this will be completed in 1908-09.

In Farídkot also, the grain mandi which had fallen into disuse has been revived and a bank has been opened by the State, with a starting capital of one lakh, in an outlying mandi near Bhatinda, the object being chiefly to help the agriculturist class in that vicinity and the traders on the spot. The founding of this institution is another instance of the promotion of modern methods of business and may be compared with the co-operative movement in the Punjab.

The agricultural conditions, as in the rest of the Punjab, were unsatisfactory on the whole, and in some of the States there were serious outbreaks of plague. The death rate in Kapúrthala was especially great, the total number of deaths being 19,984 in 1907-08 as compared with 7,686 in the previous year and 15,052 in the year before that.

The States of Jínd, Kapúrthala and Farídkot were honoured by visits from the Commander-in-Chief, and those of Patiála, Jínd, Nábha and Máler Kotla by visits from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. Major C. P. Thompson succeeded Lieutenant-Colonel Dallas as Political Agent of the Phulkián States and Baháwalpur in March 1908.

Full information will be found in the report for 1901-02 as to the area, population, gross revenue and estimated military forces, including police, of each State, and the following brief notices are inserted concerning special events of importance in the history of particular States during the year:—

PATIALA.

Area, 5,412 square miles; population, 1,596,692; gross revenue, Rs. 65,57,930; army and police, 5,522; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 16.

Personal. 4. The marriage of the Raja has been recorded above. The Council of Regency lost two of its members during the year, Lala Bhagwan Dás and the Khalifa Sayad Muhammad Hussain. Their places have been filled by Rái Bahádur Lála Nának Bakhsh, Assistant Guardian to His Highness, and Mír Tafazzul Hussain of the Chief Court.

General. 5. Unseasonable rain and a deficient monsoon and canal supply led to the sacrifice of a large amount of revenue. Settlement operations are approaching completion; only five tahsils, of which three have been re-assessed this year, remain under settlement.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 282,051; gross revenue, Rs. 12,49,000; army and police, 1,868; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 29.

General. 6. As in Patiála, the agricultural conditions have been poor. The projected railway from Jínd to Pánipat has been approved by the Railway Board, and the Darbár are prepared to finance it.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 297,949; gross revenue, Rs. 14,71,539; army and police, 1,562; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 64.

Personal. 7. The Rája has enjoyed fairly good health. The Tikka Sahib held throughout the year the post of Additional Member of the Viceroy's Council.

The Rája continues to take minute personal interest in every side of the administration, especially in stock breeding.

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population, 720,877; gross revenue, Rs. 26,00,000; army and police, 1,093; race of Chief, Daudputra; age of Chief, 3.

8. Nawab Sadik Muhammad Khan, Abbasi, V, was formally recognised in Darbar on the 15th of May 1907. A Council of Regency consisting of a president and four members is to administer the State, subject to further consideration of the arrangement after two years, and under the presidency of Maulvi Rahim Bakhsh is reported to have made a good start. **Personal.**

9. The year has been a fairly good one for agriculture. The estimates have not been completely worked out, but a credit balance of some 6 lakhs is anticipated. The Council intend to invest savings during the minority of the Chief in productive works, and especially on the improvement and extension of the inundation canals, on which cultivation mainly depends: money is also to be put by for a perennial canal to be financed by the sale of State land in the Cholistan tract, the attempt to colonize which has proved unsatisfactory. **General.**

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 314,351; gross revenue, Rs. 20,00,000; army and police, 1,106; race of Chief, Ahluwalia Sikh; age of Chief, 34; tribute Rs. 1,31,000.

10. As in last year, the Raja was absent in Europe for some months, the State Council conducting the administration during his absence. **Personal.**

11. There has been a remarkable decrease in the area cultivated in the rabi harvest. In the present year the fall amounted to 31,471 acres, and in the previous year also there had been a fall of 56,350 acres. **General.**

An elaborate system of water-works for the State gardens has been completed.

MANDI.

Area, 12,000 square miles; population, 174,045; gross revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police, 172; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 24; tribute, Rs. 1,00,000.

12. The administration has continued to be conducted by the young Raja, Bhawani Sen, under the guidance of Rai Bahadur Padha Jiva Nand, the Wazir. **Personal.**

13. The year has been a somewhat unfortunate one. Owing to the failure of both harvests, an unprecedented rise in prices occurred. Expenditure exceeded income by Rs. 38,000, though this was due mainly to the Raja's marriage. There was a considerable amount of cattle disease, and, among the people, small-pox, measles and to some extent cholera were rife. **General.**

The reduction of the duty on salt with effect from 21st March 1907 has had an appreciable effect in increasing the outturn to an extent which more than compensates the British Government and the State financially for the lower rate imposed.

SIRMUR.

Area, 1,198 square miles; population, 135,687; gross revenue, Rs. 6,00,000; army and police, 458; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 41.

14. The Rani of Sirmur died in May 1907. **Personal.**

15. The Deori-Karáhan boundary between Jubbal and Sirmúr is still under discussion owing to the Sirmúr State being dissatisfied with the demarcation effected. **General.**

An extradition treaty has been arranged between Sirmúr and Jubbal on the same lines as that between the States of Sirmúr and Chamba, and has been approved by Government.

Maler Kotla.

Area, 167 square miles; population, 77,506; gross revenue, Rs. 5,47,127; army and police, 356; race of Chief, Sherwáni Afghán; age of Chief, 49.

Personal. 16. The Regent has continued to carry on the administration successfully and he was accorded two interviews with the Lieutenant-Governor. The relations between the Chief and the Khawanin have been defined by a decision of the Government of India.

General. 17. The crops were on the whole good, though somewhat below normal on barani lands. The general health of the people was also good, and there was some diminution of plague.

Faridkot.

Area, 642 square miles; population, 124,912; gross revenue, Rs. 3,36,250; army and police, 325; race of Chief, Barar Jat; age of Chief, 12.

Personal. 18. The young Raja and his brother are both pupils at the Aitchison College, and satisfactory reports have been received as to their progress.

General. 19. The State Council have conducted the administration with tact, sound judgment and fairness. When His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief visited the State he inspected the Imperial Service Sappers and expressed himself as satisfied with their general appearance and smartness. Certain industrial improvements have already been commented on and, in addition, it may be noted that, for the promotion of general sanitation and the prevention of plague, the Darbar obtained from Government the loan of the services of Assistant Surgeon Amrik Singh.

Chamba.

Area, 3,216 square miles; population, 127,834; gross revenue, Rs. 7,39,796; army and police, 419; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 39; tribute, Rs. 5,000.

General. 20. Raja Sir Bhure Singh is doing a great deal to improve communications within the State, and is arranging for the survey of a cart road to connect Chamba with the plains. He has also provided a building for a museum. The rendition of the reserved forests to the Raja (for a period of five years on probation) has now been completed, and an officer of the Imperial Forest Service has been lent to the State. Good progress is being made with the Gazetteer, Mr. J. Hutchison of the Scotch Mission having agreed to take it in hand and bring it out under the Commissioner's supervision.

Suket.

Area, 420 square miles; population, 54,676; gross revenue, 1,27,971; army and police, 94; race of Chief, Chandarbansi Rajput; age of Chief, 43.

General. 21. The condition of the administration continued to be unsatisfactory.

Kalsia.

Area, 168 square miles; population, 67,181; gross revenue, Rs. 1,70,079; army and police, 119; race of Chief, Jat; age of Chief, 25.

General. 22. The administration of the State in this the second year since the Sardar had obtained full powers continued to be good.

PATAUDI.

Area, 52 square miles; population, 21,933; gross revenue, Rs. 85,577; army and police, 42; race of Chief, Afghán; age of Chief, 48.

23. The Nawabzada of Pataudi who left the Aitchison College some time ago and was admitted to the Imperial Cadet Corps in July 1906 is now living at Pataudi. Personal.

24. Settlement operations are in progress. General.

LOHARU.

Area, 222 square miles; population, 15,229; gross revenue, Rs. 66,000; army and police, 43; race of Chief, Mughal; age of Chief, 48.

25. In order to pay the debts incurred by the Nawab a loan of Rs. 3,11,000 has been obtained through Government from the Mamdot Estate. The heir-apparent controls the finances of the State according to a budget sanctioned by the Commissioner. General.

BILASPUR.

Area, 448 square miles; population, 90,873; gross revenue, Rs. 1,90,000; army and police, 97; race of Chief, Hindu Rajput; age of Chief, 34; tribute, Rs. 8,000.

26. His Highness Raja Bije Chand had not at the end of the year under report returned to his State. Personal.

27. The land revenue assessment of Rs. 1,70,000 has been approved by Government. Progress has been made with State buildings. The Victoria Hall is practically finished, the hospital is now occupied, and the school well advanced towards completion. General.

BASHAHR.

Area, 3,820 square miles; population, 80,572; gross revenue, Rs. 95,000; army and police, 13; race of Chief, Hindu Rajput; age of Chief, 70.

28. The adoption of Kanwar Surendar Shah, brother of the Raja of Tehri Garhwál, by His Highness Raja Shamsher Singh has been recognised by the Govermnent of India.

OTHER HILL STATES.

29. Tika Kishen Singh, the Chief of Ghund, died in September 1907, and was succeeded by Tika Ranjit Singh. The administration of Keonthal continues to be unsatisfactory, while in Mailog dissensions among the members of Council became so acute that it was dissolved and a Manager appointed.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

30. The peace of the border has not been disturbed by big feuds or serious offences during the year; the working of the Border Military Police has been satisfactory, and also that of the joint jirgas.

9. Condition of the people.

31. The period dealt with in this report varies in different sections; in this paragraph it refers to the last half of 1907 and the first half of 1908.

In this period, owing to unsatisfactory rainfall and consequent shortage of water in the canals, a large area of crops failed, the failure amounting to 33 per cent. of the sowings. The famine in the United Provinces was the cause of large exports of grain, and general prices rose to a very high level, the harvest prices of the chief staples being from 80 to 90 per cent. above the normal.

Agricultural depression in the Punjab was, however, sufficiently met by liberal suspensions and remissions of land revenue. A test famine work was opened in Gurgaon for a few months in 1908, but the maximum number of persons on relief was only 1,758. Plague was much less virulent than in previous years. From September onwards the course of trade was diverted from the seaports to the United Provinces, and to those districts where stocks were in defect, as for example, Ambála, Rohtak, Gurgaon and Kángra.

It has been an excellent year for the fortunate owners of substantial areas of irrigated land. It has been a year of trial for others, but, from a variety of causes, the agricultural population has been able to stand the strain well. The zamindars of dry tracts had the surplus of two good harvests to fall back on, and the labouring classes have been readily able to obtain work at high wages.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications:—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year 1st October 1906 to 30th September 1907.

General Report on the Operations of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1907.

Annual Report on the Settlement Operations in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1907.

Report on the operations of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1907.

Annual Report of the working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, XIII of 1900, for the year ending 30th September 1907.

Annual Reports for the Chenab, Jhelum and Chunián Colonies for the year ending 30th September 1907.

Report on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1907.]

10. Realization of the Land Revenue.

General conditions in 1906-07.

32. In the kharif 1906 the first phase of the monsoon in districts dependent on rainfall was satisfactory and the second was everywhere excellent. For the rabi crop of 1907 a good rainfall was received, but some damage was caused by abnormal rain in April; notwithstanding this, however, the matured rabi area was 1,178,153 acres in excess of the record area of the year before. The total area sown in the year was 9 per cent. above the normal area, but outturns were somewhat unsatisfactory, that of the wheat crop being as much as 32 per cent. below last year's figures.

Prices, though in most cases easier than in the previous year, were still generally above normal. The price of wheat rose in the more important wheat-producing districts.

Fixed land revenue.

33. The total demand was Rs. 2,05,35,180 as compared with Rs. 2,05,86,026. The difference of Rs. 50,846 was due to a total increase of Rs. 1,13,997 and decrease of Rs. 1,64,843. The most considerable item of increase was occasioned by the addition of Rs. 32,094 in Ráwalpindi, consequent on the revision of assessment in Gujar Khan tahsil. A large increase is shown in Lahore (Rs. 32,593); the chief items being alluvion assessments and assessments of newly colonised land in the Chunián Colony. The only other important increase is shown by Multán (Rs. 10,743), caused by the assessment of wells coming into use and the introduction of deferred increases in assessment.

Decreases of Rs. 53,127 in Gujránwála, Rs. 14,771 in Shahpur and Rs. 35,387 in Jhang are due to the introduction of fluctuating assessments in canal-irrigated and riverain tracts. Of the total demand, 97·4 per cent. was recovered, while collections on account of previous years amounted to $6\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs.

Suspensions and remissions.

34. The total amount of suspensions during the year was Rs. 3,68,732 as compared with 22·78 lakhs last year. Of this sum, however, Rs. 61,221 were recovered during the year. The largest amount suspended, *viz.*, Rs. 1,18,869, was in Hissar.

Rupees 5,21,624 of suspended revenue were remitted during the year, remissions from the current demand being included in these figures. Out of this sum Rs. 3,05,780 were remitted in the Rohtak district alone where a constant succession of bad harvests had made the collection of old arrears inadvisable. The total amount of fixed land revenue under suspension at the close of the year was Rs. 18,91,154, which is Rs. 8,52,052 less than the figures for the previous year.

Fluctuating land revenue.

35. The amount of land revenue collected under systems of fluctuating assessment was 44·17 lakhs as compared with 45·07 lakhs last year. This sum is greater than one-sixth of the land revenue of the province. The system is on the whole popular with revenue-payers.

Miscellaneous land revenue.

36. The total collections for the year of miscellaneous land revenue amount to Rs. 13,29,961, and, as usual, the colony districts contribute the great bulk of the total. The largest items consist of sale of Government estates 5·07 lakhs, sale of waste land and nazarana 2·15 lakhs, sale of town sites 1·20 lakhs, and tirni (dues for grazing in Government wastes) 1·26 lakhs.

Miscellaneous.

37. There has been an increase in the total number of writs and warrants issued for the realization of revenue, but this increase is more apparent than real owing to a change in method, and there has been no increase in the number of cases of imprisonment or of sales of property of defaulters.

There is in most districts a steady increase in the amount of revenue remitted by money order, and the system is evidently found to be a great convenience. In Karnál over 22 per cent. of the revenue was paid in this manner.

In the year under report the quinquennial analysis of agricultural statistics has been brought up to date, and it is satisfactory to note that the history of the past five years has been one of general progress. The cultivated area has been increased by 1½ million acres, canals have been extended by 175 miles, and 1,838 new masonry wells have been constructed. The incidence of land revenue per cultivated acre, which stood at 15 annas 9 pies in 1901-02, is now Re. 1 and 2 pies. This increase is small in view both of the rise in prices and the gradual substitution of a fluctuating for a fixed demand.

With regard to operations under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, the only matters of interest to note are the decision to postpone the enhancement of occupier's rate on the Bari Doab Canal, to substitute a combined rate for the owner's and occupier's rates on the Western Jumna Canal, and to allow the Baluch tumandars extensive powers in the distribution of water and collection of assessments over the purely Baluch villages of their tumans.

Under the Punjab Minor Canals Act eight natural channels in the Kángra district with their tributaries have been notified for the purposes of section 4, and all the distributaries fed by them included in schedule II of the Act. Action has also been taken in some other districts, notably in the case of the Gurgaon bunds.

Advances under the Land Improvements and Agriculturists' Loans Acts were in little request during the year, while recoveries were good and remissions, except of old standing arrears, unnecessary.

11. Survey.

Survey of India Parties Nos. 9, 14 and 18.

38. Owing to the urgent requirements of the military authorities for the completion of the surveys along the North-West Frontier, No. 18 Party, which has for many years been working in the Punjab, was mainly diverted to the North-West Frontier Province, working from the frontier eastwards. This Party and No. 14 Party, however, did a considerable amount of triangulation prior to survey in the country round Attock, that to the west of Miánwáli, and that to the north-west of Dera Gházi Khan, while a small area immediately to the west of Dera Gházi Khan was surveyed.

In addition to its regular topographical work, No. 18 Party did a large amount of traverse work. Nine traversers were employed in the Jhelum Colony, executing 626 linear miles of traversing at a cost of Rs. 10-6-0 per mile. Meanwhile arrangements had been concluded with the Punjab Government to traverse and lay down base lines over the whole of the desert areas of the Bari Doab, in Montgomery and Multán districts. The work consists of first traversing and then laying out from the traverse lines base lines about 2½ miles apart over the whole area, the object being to prevent men working on the square system from going far astray in laying out and apportioning land in the new colony, so that the Punjab settlement staff may be able to break up the whole area into a system of rectangles without accumulative error.

The supply of these reliable traverse data as a basis for the settlement survey in the proposed Lower Bari Doab Colony and in the Gujránwála district should ensure a greater degree of accuracy in the revenue maps and reduce the work of their revision at future settlements.

39. The first practical test on a large scale of the advantages of the riverain maps was made last cold weather, when, by the use of the survey maps and the deputation of a traverser to locate fresh marks on the ground, all discrepancies in the boundaries between Kapúrthala and Amritsar were brought to a head, and, for the most part, at once disposed of. Boundary demarcation.

No change of any importance has been made in district boundaries during the past year. The Shahpur district has been rounded off by including within its borders the Jhang portions of the Jhelum Colony, and the entire colony is now contained within the former district.

12. Settlements.

40. The conclusion of the operations in Hazára completes the settlement work in the North-West Frontier Province, for which the Punjab Settlement Department was responsible. The Rawalpindi and Háfizabad settlements have also been brought to a close during the year. Their duration has been practically five years in each case and thus, as remarked last year, experience is showing that the anticipation that operations can ordinarily be completed in four years is too sanguine. The postponement of the enhancement of occupier's rates on the Bari Doab Canal has been adverted to above.

13. Land Records.

41. In the past year an endeavour has been made to secure a larger number of patwari candidates from the agriculturist castes, and, in consequence, the proportion of such candidates has somewhat increased, while, at the same time, the improvement in the standard of education of candidates has been maintained. Attention is being paid to the problem of the housing of the patwari staff as the present arrangement, under which the patwari is made responsible for the up-keep of the patwarkhana, is admittedly unsatisfactory. Patwaris.

On the whole the conduct and work of the patwaris has been satisfactory. Now that they are paid by Government, there is some danger that they may come to be regarded rather as a grade of Government servants than as members of the village community.

42. Mutation work steadily increases, and this year the number of cases for disposal amounted to 889,374 compared with 815,561 last year. During the year new arrangements have been made for the supply of mapping sheets and of plotting scales. Mutations.

14. Waste Lands and Government Estates.

43. No fresh allotments have taken place during the year. The post of Colonization Officer was abolished on 1st April 1907, being absorbed in that of Deputy Commissioner of Lyallpur, who also retains charge of the special colony work in respect of the portion of the colony which lies within the Jhang district. The control of the colony villages in the Lahore and Gujránwála districts has been handed over to the Deputy Commissioners concerned. Chenab Colony.

On the whole the working of the canal has been good, and over cent. per cent. of the area allotted was irrigated in the year 1906-07, the autumn harvest being, with the exception of cotton, good, though the spring harvest was one of the worst on record owing to untimely rains, locusts and hailstorms.

Two of the most remarkable features of the year have been the increased congestion of traffic on the railway and the scarcity of manual labour. The grain export has been so large that the railway has been entirely unable to cope with it. Owing to congestion of traffic in Karáchi and lack of waggons at Lyallpur, some wheat lay untouched for six or seven weeks on the stations and received repeated showers. Eventually a special staff had to be employed to clean Gojra, Lyallpur and Chiniot Road Stations of the rotton wheat caked into the mud of the open goods yard, and probably a cholera epidemic was only narrowly avoided. Representations have been made to the North-Western Railway, and the matter is under the consideration of the Local Government.

The problem of the supply of labour has become even more acute than formerly owing to the ravages of plague and to general economic conditions such as the rise in prices. During the harvest even boys were refusing twelve annas a day. This state of affairs is more or less general throughout the province, but is accentuated in Lyallpur where customary rates naturally have not the same force as in the older districts. It is fitting, therefore, that the first steps to alleviate it should be taken in Lyallpur, and this has been done by the Agricultural Association who have been the pioneers of reaping machines, twenty-seven of which have been ordered from England.

The experiment of granting rewards for village sanitation has proved successful, and good progress has been made with roadside tree-planting.

The Jhelum Colony.

44. Practically all the good land in this colony has been allotted. The balance is at present given out on temporary cultivation to old residents of the tract in the hope that it may improve to such an extent as to make it fit for allotment to outsiders, its present quality being somewhat inferior. The figures for temporary cultivation show excellent results, and by granting patches of culturable soil on the confines of the unculturable desert to the Janglis, the habits of these original nomadic and predatory inhabitants of the tract are reported to have become comparatively more peaceful and honest. The question of making permanent grants to these people, however, has not yet been settled, as the experiment has not had a sufficient trial and as there are other claimants of the land.

The unevenness of the canal water-supply has been a source of grave complaint. Ninety-six per cent. of the allotted area was sown during the year, however, which shows that it is the distribution of the water-supply rather than the total amount of the supply which is at fault. Steps are being taken to remedy the defect, but the equitable distribution of the water of a large canal is a problem requiring time for its solution. There has been a marked success during the year in horse-breeding, a result which is largely due to the skill and tact of the supervising staff of the Remount Department.

The prevailing scarcity of labour noticed in the Chenab Colony also made itself felt in this colony in the spring of 1907, when, as in 1904, the crops were left standing for want of hands to reap them. Improvements in communications have been delayed from the same cause, but in spite of these drawbacks substantial progress has been made. The towns are increasing in size, and considerable progress has been made in arboriculture.

Chunian Colony.

45. This colony passed a peaceful and prosperous year undisturbed by any untoward events except the occasional inroads of thieves from the Montgomery district, against whose depredations it is proposed to establish a police station at Pattoki. A comparatively small area remains for allotment. Crops were reaped on 92 per cent. of the area allotted, and in spite of a partial failure of wheat and cotton the harvests on the whole were above average. In view of these results the working of the canal appears to have been good. The progress of building operations, the improvement of communications and the good prices realized at sales of residential sites all indicate that the colony is in a flourishing condition.

The Jhang Colony.

46. The allotment of most of the available areas was carried out during the year, and only a small balance of presumably inferior soil remains. The irrigation arrangements appear to be inadequate as less than 13 per cent. of the allotted area was sown. The condition of the markets at Shah Jiwana and Jhang does not appear to be satisfactory, but when the intended improvements are carried out better results may be obtained.

46-A. A Commission was appointed in October 1907 to enquire into and report on numerous matters connected with the administration of the canal colonies. The Commission after travelling through the colonies and recording a large amount of evidence submitted its report in April 1908.

Other Government waste.

47. The report of the working of the Chos Act, 1900, is encouraging. The plantations of trees and grass in the beds and on the banks of these hill torrents are a source of considerable profit to the people, and the Deputy Commissioner of Hoshiárpur reports that in the hills the beds of the streams are becoming narrower and deeper. The people themselves are beginning to realize the advantages attainable as is proved by applications received from six villages to have certain of the provisions of the Act extended to their areas.

15. Wards Estates.

48. The number of estates under management is 47 as against 45 last year, three properties having been taken over and one released. In the case of the latter debts amounting to Rs. 21,592 have been paid off and a balance of Rs. 37,384 accumulated during the 19 years of control by the Court of Wards. At the same time the landed property of the ward has been considerably increased and the estate generally improved. With regard to the investment of balances, increased attention is being paid to expenditure on improvements as forming a more profitable form of investment than that of placing large balances in securities which are easily negotiable and form a temptation to the ward to indulge in extravagance when released from tutelage.

An attempt has been made during the year to form an estimate of the gross value of the estates under the Court of Wards by adding to the moveable assets and the house property the value of the land calculated at eighty times the land revenue, but excluding the value of the jagirs enjoyed by the wards. According to this estimate the gross value of the 47 estates with their area of over half a million acres is $2\frac{1}{3}$ crores of rupees.

16. Revenue and rent-paying classes.

Land Alienation Act.

49. The amended Act, the provisions of which were referred to in last year's report, came into force on May 9th, 1907, but it is, as yet, too early to gauge the effect of the abolition of the "statutory agriculturist." The only new tribes notified in the past year were the Awans in the Amritsar district, the Khaggas, Sainis and Gujars in Lyallpur, and the Arains in Muzaffargarh. The working of the Act throughout the year has been satisfactory, and it has been authoritatively stated that the people, after seven years' experience, express their approval of it. It is contended by the members of agricultural tribes that it has not lessened the value of their land, that it has not contracted their credit to any serious extent, that it has reduced the rate of interest to solvent landowners, has encouraged thrift, and decreased litigation.

It is satisfactory to note that this opinion is borne out by statistics. The amount of land permanently transferred is less than in any year since the passing of the Act; while the average price per acre calculated on total area, which was on the average Rs. 46 for the five years before the Act was passed, has now risen to Rs. 56. As regards mortgages, the redemptions have shown a continuous and encouraging increase. During each of the last three years the area redeemed has exceeded the area mortgaged; and during the present year the combined area of the land redeemed by agricultural tribes and mortgaged to them is 290,000 acres greater than the land which they have lost by mortgage. This is counterbalanced to some extent, however, by the probability that much of the land redeemed was redeemed only for the purpose of mortgaging it to greater advantage.

In sum, it can safely be said that the agricultural tribes are as a whole holding their own and are also slowly recovering land both by purchase and by redemption from mortgage.

Tenants and rents.

50. The number of suits for enhancement of rent has doubled during the year and amounted to 1,400, out of which 1,100 were successful. This number is, however, very small compared to the number of occupancy tenants in the province, and the cases are confined chiefly to Amritsar, Hoshiárpur and Rohtak. Proceedings for the ejectment of occupancy tenants have been extremely small in number, but similar proceedings with regard to tenants-at-will have increased considerably owing mainly to a general rise in rents following on that in prices; but as there are some 4 million tenants-at-will in the province and in only 6,187 cases were such tenants actually ejected by order of an officer during the year, it is clear that landlords and tenants generally manage to adjust their differences without the aid of the courts.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

51. Under the Descent of Jagirs Act action continues to be taken, and the total number of jagirs notified under the Act up to 30th September 1907 was 97 with a value of over 6½ lakhs per annum.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

[Detailed information and statistics on the subjects included in this chapter will be found in the following reports:—

Police.—Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1907.

Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1907.

Criminal Justice.—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1907.

Prisons.—Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1907.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1907.

Registration.—Punjab Registration Department Report for 1905-07.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1907-08.

Local Boards Administration.—Report on the working of the Local Boards in the Punjab during the year 1907-08.

And in Statistics of British India, Part VI—Judicial (First Issue) and Part VIII—Local Funds (First Issue).]

17. Legislating Authority.

(See pages 83 and 84 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

18. Course of Legislation.

52. No meeting of the Punjab Legislative Council was held during the year 1907-08. Punjab Council.

53. The following changes took place during the year among the Hon'ble Members of the Council:—

(*a*) The Hon'ble Mr. J. McDouie and the Hon'ble Thakar Mahan Chand vacated their seats on the expiry of their term of two years. The Hon'ble Mr. S. Finney resigned his seat on the 7th October 1907.

(*b*) The Hon'ble Malik Umar Hayat Khan and the Hon'ble Sardar Partab Singh on the expiry of their term were re-appointed on the 6th February 1908 for a further term of two years.

(*c*) The Hon'ble Messrs. J. Wilson and R. E. Younghusband and the Hon'ble Lala Harkishen Lal were appointed on the 4th and 17th December 1907 and 6th February 1908, respectively, to fill up the existing vacancies.

Bills passed.

54. The following Bills were introduced into the Legislative Council of the Governor-General of India during the year under report :—

No. of Bill.	Subject.	Extent.	Date of introduction into the Legislative Council of the Governor-General.
2 of 1907 ...	A Bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the procedure of Courts of Civil Judicature.	Whole of British India, except the Scheduled Districts.	6th September 1907.
3 of 1907 ...	A Bill further to amend the law relating to private trusts and trustees.	Madras, North-West Provinces, Punjab, Oudh, Central Provinces, Coorg and Assam and to other parts of British India to which it is extended by Local Government.	27th September 1907.
4 of 1907 ...	A Bill to make better provision for the prevention of meetings likely to promote sedition or to cause a disturbance of public tranquility.	Whole of British India ...	18th October 1907.
5 of 1907 ...	A Bill further to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879.	Ditto ...	Ditto.
1 of 1908 ...	A Bill to consolidate and amend the law for the limitation of suits and for other purposes.	Ditto ...	3rd January 1908.
2 of 1908 ...	A Bill further to amend the Whipping Act, 1864, and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.	Whole of British India except the Scheduled Districts.	13th March 1908.
3 of 1908 ...	A Bill to give greater facilities to the public for calling for and inspecting accounts of public charities.	Whole of British India, except the Scheduled Districts.	20th March 1908.
4 of 1908 ...	A Bill to amend the law of Insolvency in the presidency towns and in the town of Rangoon.	Presidency Towns ...	Ditto.

Acts.

The India Acts which apply to the Punjab as well as to the other parts of British India which received the assent of the Viceroy during the year were as follows :—

No. of Act.	Subject.	Extent.	Date of Viceroy's assent.
V of 1907 ...	An Act further to amend the Local Authorities Loan Act, 1879.	Whole of British India ...	18th October 1907.
VI of 1907...	An Act to make better provision for the prevention of public meetings likely to promote sedition or to cause a disturbance of public tranquility.	Ditto ...	1st November 1907.
I of 1908 ...	An Act further to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879.	Ditto ...	3rd January 1908.
II of 1908 ...	An Act further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894.	Ditto ...	Ditto.
IV of 1908...	*An Act further to amend the Coroners Act, 1871, and the Prisoners Act, 1900.	Calcutta and Bombay ...	17th January 1907.
V of 1908 ...	An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Procedure of the Civil Courts and Civil Judicature.	Whole of British India, except Scheduled Districts.	21st March 1908.

* Does not apply to the Punjab.

19. Police.

Condition of crime and working of the police.

55. The year was marked by a slight decrease in crime, and the total number of cognisable cases reported was 66,632 as compared with 67,510 in 1906. The general tendency of recent years is in the direction of an increase in non-cognisable crime, while cognisable cases found 'True' by the police have remained fairly stationary and Magistrate's 'True' cognisable cases have regularly decreased from year to year. Judged by mere percentages the working of the police has not been quite so successful as in last year, but in large and important cases and in the arrest and breaking up of gangs of criminals the police have done well. The number of murders which occurred is very much the same as last year, but the difficulty of obtaining convictions remains as great as formerly. The causes of this difficulty are said to be the lack of observance of rules as to the appearance of the Public Prosecutor, delays and postponements of cases, and, in the northern part of the province, concealment of evidence by the village community which last has given rise to the remark that "nothing short of communal responsibility will break down this custom. Where the community continues to protect the individual, the community should suffer." In the year under discussion convictions were obtained in only 41 per cent. of the murder cases, in 64 per cent. of the attempts to murder and in 74 per cent. of the cases of culpable homicide.

Rioting shows a trivial increase, the chief cases being the Lahore and Ráwalpindi riots due to unrest. Otherwise there was nothing in this class of crime to call for comment.

Perhaps owing to the events of April and May, the failure of the monsoon and the unparalleled virulence of plague in the early summer of 1907, there has been a considerable increase in dakaiti; the total number of cases was 69 as compared with 46 last year and 43 in 1905. There were also 6 cases of dakaiti with murder. A very large number of these cases, however, were traced to a well organised band in Lahore, the members of which have been caught and punished.

During the year convictions were obtained against the Editor, Printer and Proprietor of "India" for publishing a politically objectionable article; Editor of the "Hindustan" was also concerned.

There is little that is noteworthy among other classes of crimes except the four cases of fouling water in Ráwalpindi district. This fouling, or pretended fouling of water, was an instrument devised by malcontents to disquiet the minds of the ignorant people, and some difficulty was experienced in eradicating the impression produced. Convictions were secured in two out of the four cases.

A satisfactory feature of the year's administration has been the continued and increased co-operation between the police of different districts and of Native States, and the aid rendered by Zaildars and Honorary Magistrates to the police has also been favourably commented on. The rising social status of the police should tend to eliminate their inevitable unpopularity and thus to increase their efficiency which depends considerably on the co-operation of the people.

Punitive Posts.

56. Of the 27 punitive posts which were in existence at the end of 1906, 13 were continued for a further period and 12 new posts were established. The location of punitive posts generally is reported to have had a deterrent effect on crime.

Railway Police and Criminal Investigation Department.

57. Excluding false cases, the number of cognisable offences reported during the year to the Railway Police was 2,126 as against 2,403 in 1906, an increase of 277, but the percentage of convictions was more than maintained. The force has maintained a satisfactory record, and co-operation with the district police has continued to be cordial. The Criminal Investigation Department has continued to progress and, besides helping in the apprehension of absentee members of criminal tribes, conducted successful inquiries into cases where the area of investigation extended far beyond the Punjab. In the Punjab National Bank fraud case after an intricate inquiry extending to two years the offenders were brought eventually to justice.

RURAL POLICE.

(See pages 88 and 89 of the report for 1901-02.)

CRIMINAL TRIBES.

58. The number of persons registered remains much the same as last year. The Mahtams of Lahore, the Minas of Gurgaon, the Pakhiwaras of Siálkot, the Sansis in Amritsar and Ambála though not elsewhere, the Bauriahs and the Harnis have been favourably reported on, and in some cases a distinct desire to settle down is apparent. Owing to their bad reputation it is sometimes difficult to accomplish this desire, and in this connection it is noteworthy that, acting probably on a time-honoured principle, 12 members of one tribe (the Minas) have been appointed village watchmen and 5 have been enrolled in the police.

26. Criminal Justice.

Percentage of convictions.

59. The percentage of persons brought to trial who are convicted does not vary markedly from year to year, and the chances remain usually at something more than three to one in favour of the accused; but there is an increasing tendency towards discouraging frivolous litigation by dismissing cases *in limine* and by awarding compensation to persons unjustifiably accused.

Registration of marriages.

60. The alarming increase in offences relating to marriage which was so marked in the last six years has not been so evident this year, but the advisability of taking steps towards some system of registration is under consideration. In a few districts a rough system of registration has already been established.

Security cases.

61. As regards preventive action by Magistrates the statistics for the last seven years show that there is a marked preference for the procedure of binding over to keep the peace over that of taking security for good behaviour. This tendency is perhaps too strong.

Punishments.

62. In the matter of punishment the figures show that the principle is being more carefully followed that serious and repeated crime should be met by severe sentences and that casual crime, more especially among children, should be met by sentences of whipping, by release on security, or, in the case of children, by relegation to the Reformatory.

The Reformatory School.

63. The Reformatory School at Delhi was established in 1903 and its record is satisfactory. The average daily strength in 1904 was 19; in 1905, 39; in 1906, 52; in 1907, 67; but the opportunities afforded by the school for the detention and reform of youthful criminals have not even yet been fully utilised.

Decisions.

64. From a legal standpoint the Full Bench Judgment of the Chief Court, published as No. 12 (Criminal) of 1907, is of great importance. In that decision it was held that a re-entry by a person on land from which he has been legally ejected amounts to a criminal trespass. This ruling has probably had its effect in reducing the number of such cases.

Political unrest.

65. In the spring of 1907 a considerable feeling of unrest prevailed in the province which was partly due to the prevalence of plague and high prices and partly to agitation against certain measures of Government, such as the introduction of the Colonization Bill (referred to in paragraph 46 of last year's report) and the proposed enhancement of the occupier's rates on the Bari Doab Canal. It was found necessary in May 1907 to deport two of the agitators under Regulation III of 1818 and to apply to certain districts Ordinance No. I of 1907 which ultimately developed into Act VI of 1907, dealing with public meetings of a seditious character. Prosecutions were also instituted in connection with riots at Lahore and Ráwalpindi. A certain number of persons were convicted as the result of these prosecutions, and the feeling of unrest had by the autumn considerably abated. The deported agitators were released in November 1907, and it was decided that the Seditious Meetings Act (passed in November) should not be applied to this province.

21. Prisons.

66. The provincial jails, owing to the opening of that at Campbellpur on 1st January 1907, now number 29, and the fair plans and estimates for the proposed Central Jail at Ludhiána have been prepared. The need for this jail is pressing owing chiefly to the endeavour to apply modern principles of sociology in the treatment of criminals, more particularly of the juvenile and non-habitual classes; the present jail accommodation is insufficient for this. Unfortunately, however, the scheme is a very costly one involving an expenditure of eight lakhs and will have to be postponed. In the same connection and in analysing the nature of the sentences imposed on the convicts admitted into jails some of the points noticed in section 20, 'Criminal Justice,' again call for attention. Thus 72 boys under 16 years of age were sent to prison as opposed to 34 sent to the Delhi Reformatory and 3,264 persons were sentenced to terms of imprisonment of less than one month. The difficulty of segregating casual from habitual offenders and the advisability of imposing fines or using the provisions of section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code instead of inflicting short periods of imprisonment do not seem to be as yet fully realised by the Magistracy, though, as noted in paragraph 62, some improvement is noticeable.

Guarding and maintenance.

67. The total cost of guarding and maintenance was Rs. 70-8-6 per head against Rs. 69-9-0 in 1906 and Rs. 67-3-7 in 1905, but the increase is in general items only, there being a most satisfactory decrease, notwithstanding high prices, in the cost of diet, which was brought down from an average of Rs. 24-2-6 to one of Rs. 22-15-0 per head.

Employment of prisoners.

68. The forms of labour on which convicts were employed underwent no change during the year. Exclusive of those unable to work through sickness, etc., 34 per cent. of those sentenced to labour were employed on manufactures as compared with 35 per cent. last year. These figures compare unfavourably with those of other provinces and endeavours are being made to bring about a more satisfactory state of affairs. There are other factors, however, which should be considered in making the comparison with the figures of other provinces and which might make the comparison somewhat less unfavourable.

Vital statistics.

69. The standard of health maintained has been slightly lower than in the preceding year, but for the second year in succession not a single case of cholera occurred in any jail in the province. There has been a decrease in the number of cases of malaria, and a further decrease is expected owing to greater care in the distribution of quinine. In 1907 there were 2,461 cases as against 3,272 in 1906. Captain Forster's serum for dysentery promises to be of great use in the treatment of that disease.

22. Civil Justice.

General.

70. The civil administration of the year presented few abnormal features. The effect of the extended period of limitation for money suits mentioned in last year's report will not be clearly visible till 1911, but there are indications that a decrease in such suits will occur. Three full years have now elapsed since the new Act was made and the suits held up by that Act have now for the most part probably been instituted, yet the figures for such suits are still much lower than before the passing of the Act. The number of matrimonial and guardianship (Act VIII of 1890) cases continues very high and the amount of time which District Judges require to spend over the latter is a serious problem. During the year there has been a marked improvement in the execution of decrees, probably due to the instructions issued by the Chief Court to ensure the methodical distribution of execution cases.

The Chief Court.

71. There was a large increase in every class of appellate work, but disposals more than kept pace with institutions. The Court consisted of 9 Judges up to the vacation and thereafter of 6 Judges.

The sixth Judge's appointment terminated in April 1908, but its temporary renewal has since been sanctioned.

23. Registration.

72. The main interest of the Registration Report which is a triennial one for the years 1905-07 lies in the light which is thrown by it upon the effect felt on the registration figures by the passing of the Land Alienation Act on the one hand and the increasing confidence in mutation procedure on the other.

73. The figures for the years immediately preceding and those following the passing of the Land Alienation Act show very markedly the large decrease in transactions relating to land which followed the passing of the Act; and the tendency which is observed in the figures for compulsory registrations, that is to say, for registrations of land of superior value, to rise gradually since the check received in 1901, while partly no doubt due to the increased knowledge of the terms on which alienations may be made under the Act is due also to an increase in urban transactions which are outside the scope of the Act.

74. In the case of optional registrations which deal with small transactions relating to lands of value less than Rs. 100, the persistent decrease in the number of transactions is very marked, and as there is no corresponding decrease in the total number of sales and mortgages actually made, it may be concluded that the continual decrease in optional registration is due not merely to a decrease in the number of transactions which may at option be registered, but also to the increased confidence placed by the holders of small properties in the land records in which the mutations of such property are entered. If this be the true explanation, it is a most satisfactory result, and the practice must tend towards the maintenance of a high level of accuracy in our land records. The subject is one of particular interest in this province and must be carefully watched, as it may be possible to take further measures hereafter to reduce the complexity and expense of land transfers amongst agriculturists.

75. The change in the method of remunerating Sub-Registrars had a curious effect in that in some cases the Sub-Registrars refused to accept that part of their remuneration which consists of a salary of Rs. 30 per month as they thought this small sum derogatory to their dignity. It has, however, now been recognised that there is no objection to a Sub-Registrar being honorary instead of departmental. It is possible that the introduction of this change in remuneration may result in a lowering of the standard of social position of Sub-Registrars and, in view of the experience of the United Provinces, this will need to be watched.

A scheme is under preparation for a general levelling up of the pay of Sub-Registrars' muharrirs at least to the minimum scale usual in other departments.

24 Local Boards Administration.

General.

76. Local boards have been abolished in Hoshiárpur, and the proportion of official members on the district board has been altered. In Ludhiána and Delhi interest is taken in elections; in other districts, as before, there is usually no contest, while the interest displayed by members in the proceedings of the boards is also still very variable. In order to ensure the exercise by district boards of their executive powers measures are being taken to introduce monthly meetings throughout the province. The Lieutenant-Governor has also invited the attention of Commissioners to the possibility of boards holding their meetings in each tahsil in turn, so that the recognition of the equal claims of all parts of the district may be ensured, and to the need of supplying properly drawn up agenda statements some time before the meetings as is done in the larger municipalities.

Public Works.

77. District Engineers are still being appointed, but several districts experience difficulty in obtaining men of suitable character and qualifications. There is here an opening for the Indian Engineer. The boards have been advised to improve their engineering staff and to equip themselves with such necessaries as steam rollers which they must have if they are eventually to manage their metalled roads without the assistance of the Public Works Department.

25. Municipal Administration.

Constitution and working of committees.

78. The year has been uneventful. Certain petty municipalities were marked down for conversion into notified areas, and the necessary changes have been given effect to since the close of the year. In Simla the system of election has been abolished, and the committee now consists of the Deputy Commissioner, one of the Civil Surgeons, the Executive Engineer and representatives of the Government of India, the house-owners, the trades and the Indian population. As in the case of some other municipalities previously, such as Amritsar and Multán, it has been found advisable now to extend the system of each religious community electing its own representative to Ambála and Rewári so as to equalize the number of Hindu and Muhammadan members on the committees. Two hundred and thirty-four vacancies among elected members occurred during the year, but in only 35 cases were the seats contested, which confirms the remark so frequently made that the municipal franchise is not much appreciated in the Punjab.

Provident funds continue to be established, and it is hoped that they will soon be adopted by all local bodies; the model rules framed by Government have been accepted by many committees and found suitable, with the exception that it has been found advisable that committees should contribute cent. per cent. with the subscriptions of their servants.

Taxation.

79. The Punjab Trades Association continues to inveigh against the existence of octroi, and it is officially admitted that the abolition of this tax is desirable from the purely economic standpoint. There are signs, notably in some recent proposals of the Lahore municipality, that the objections of the citizens to direct taxation are diminishing with the advent of modern conditions of trade, but the remark of Sir Charles Crosthwaite quoted in a Government of India resolution of 1899 that octroi is a customary tax, that direct taxation would be more vexatious, and that the abolition of octroi would have to be forced by Government still has considerable force.

The wholesale abolition of octroi under present conditions in the Punjab is impracticable. The tax has been abolished in Murree and Kángra during the year and has not been newly imposed anywhere. Steady progress is being made in the revision of octroi schedules and, as a rule, these now only include the main staples of consumption, while care is being taken to avoid taxing articles of through trade and the raw materials of local industries.

Excluding the hill municipalities where incidence is high there are 17 municipalities as against 12 last year where the incidence of taxation per head of the population is above two rupees, but some allowance has to be made for an increase in the population not taken into the statistical calculation.

Sanitation and miscellaneous.

80. The Municipal Administration Report relates to the period 1907-08, during which the health of the towns has been on the whole good. Since the close of the year, however, and owing to the heavy summer rains there has been a cholera visitation in Lahore and appalling mortality from fever both in that city and Amritsar. The conservancy arrangements in both cities are inadequate and a popular demand for better arrangements has been awakened to an unprecedented degree. The Ludhiána water-works scheme made good progress during the year and has now been completed. A mono rail has been constructed by a native firm at Ambála to connect the railway station with the grain market and ginning factories, and the Delhi electric tramway has now been completed.

26. Military (Volunteers).

Strength and distribution of Volunteer Forces.

81. The strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1908 is reported to have been as follows :—

Corps.	Company.	Station.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficients.	Sergeant-Instructors.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	8	...	...	8	8	4
	A	Lahore	2	15	88	105	101	...
	B	Ambála	1	11	46	58	58	...
	C	Ráwalpindi	2	5	62	69	64	...
	D	Peshawar	1	2	16	19	19	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	48	49	48	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	5	...	...	5	...	...
		Total ...	20	33	260	313	298	4
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	10
	A, B, C and Cadet ½ Company	Lahore	7	36	226	269	262	...
	D	Ráwalpindi	3	9	115	127	126	...
	E	Amritsar	2	6	48	56	56	...
	F	Delhi	2	6	63	71	71	...
	G and H	Murree	7	15	137	159	152	...
	I	Peshawar	2	7	49	58	58	...
	K	Ferozepore	1	8	59	68	68	...
	L	Srínagar	3	8	85	96	89	...
	L Section	Siálkot	1	5	30	36	36	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	103	104	100	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	22	...	...	22	...	...
		Total ...	60	100	915	1,075	1,027	10
Simla Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	10	...	...	10	9	2
	A	Simla	3	9	30	42	40	...
	B		2	12	92	106	90	...
	C		2	7	52	61	60	...
	D		3	8	37	48	48	...
	E		3	10	94	107	106	...
	F	Sanáwar	3	9	137	149	149	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	14	14	...	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Officers ...	12	...	...	12	...	...
		Total ...	38	55	456	549	502	2
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	8	...	...	8	8	12
	A	Karachi Cantonment	3	8	56	67	67	...
	B	Multán	3	7	101	111	111	...
	C	Lahore	6	17	204	227	223	...
	D	Lahore	1	10	85	96	94	...
	E	Ambála	2	11	92	105	105	...
	F	Saháranpur	2	8	124	134	132	...
	G	Kotri	...	7	83	90	90	...
	H	Lahore	1	17	90	108	107	...
	I	Quetta	2	9	64	75	75	...
	K	Ráwalpindi	4	17	102	123	123	...
	L	Sukkar	5	12	91	108	108	...
	M	Karáchi City	3	5	47	55	55	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Members ...	5	...	...	5	...	...
		Total ...	45	128	1,139	1,312	1,298	12

Inspections.

82. The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifle Corps and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in February 1908, and the Simla Volunteer Rifles in October 1907. The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

Agriculture.—(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1907.

(2) Annual Report of the Experimental Farm, Lyallpur, for the autumn and spring harvests, 1907-08.

(3) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1908.

(4) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1907-08.

(5) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1907.

(6) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1908.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the Meteorology and Climatology of the Punjab for the year 1907-08.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1907-08.

Horticulture.—Annual Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1908.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1907-08.

Arboriculture.—Progress Report on the Arboriculture in the Punjab for the triennial period 1905 06 to 1907-08.

Mines and Quarries—(1) Reports on the working of the Dandot Colliery for the half-years ending 30th June 1907 and 31st December 1907.

(2) Statement showing the produce of minerals and gems for the calendar year 1907.

Manufactures.—Report on the working of the Factories Act during the year 1907.

Trade.—(1) Report on the Internal Land Trade of the Punjab for the year ending March 31st, 1908.

(2) Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1907-08.

(3) Report by the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies on the working of the Joint Stock Companies in the Punjab during the year 1907-08.

(4) Monograph on Iron and Steel Industries in the Punjab, 1907.

Public Works.—Report of the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1907-08.

Irrigation.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department in the Punjab for the year ending 31st March 1908.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Agriculture.—Prices and Wages in India, 25th issue, 1907.

Weather and Crops.—Agricultural Statistics of India, 22nd issue.

Mines and Quarries.—Records of Geological Survey of India, volume XXXVI.

Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1907.

Manufactures.—Financial and Commercial Statistics, 1st issue, new series.

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the calendar year 1907.

Trade.—Accounts of the trade carried by rail and river in India, 19th issue.]

27. Agriculture.

Agricultural Department.

83. This year has been spent in completing the arrangements for the organisation of the department. The hope expressed in paragraph 82 of last year's review that the college at Lyallpur would be opened by 1st July 1908 has not been realised. The internal fittings of the building, the water-supply, lighting arrangements, &c., are still incomplete, but it is hoped that the college will be opened from the 1st July 1909. The sanctioned staff of European experts is complete, and has been usefully employed in acquiring a knowledge of the agricultural conditions of the province. In addition to this, results of some importance have been achieved in certain directions. Much has been done to popularise agricultural machinery, and useful experiments have been made with regard to cereals and cottons. Experiments concerning *reh* cannot be completed till the chemical laboratory is ready. Difficulty is being found in recruiting the proper type of man as agricultural assistant. A hopeful sign has been the useful work done by agricultural associations in Lyallpur and Hissar, and instructions have been given that Deputy Commissioners should encourage the formation of such associations.

Experimental farms.

84. Work at the Lyallpur agricultural station was much hindered by the character of the season, which was unusually unfavourable. But the report of the Principal shows that the organisation of experiments by his programme has already given definite results. He shows that jute and sugar beet can be grown with success. More accurate information has been obtained about varieties of wheat and cotton. The most important result is the demonstration that comparative experimental plots should be long, narrow, and alongside of one another. Various patterns of agricultural machinery have been tried, and most progress has been shown in the use of reapers. A considerably lighter type of manual delivery reaper was tried and found generally superior, but the gear of the knife was rather too low. Satisfactory types of threshing machine and horse hoe have not yet been found. It has been decided to secure a site in the Jullundur district for another experimental farm.

Agricultural operations in the districts.

85. American cotton has suffered a set-back, largely due to a serious plague epidemic resulting in great scarcity of labour and poor cultivation in the Jhelum colony. In order to facilitate the disposal of the produce, a system of periodical auctions at stated places is being introduced. Egyptian cotton has not done well. The distribution of selected indigenous seed has not been successful except in Hissar. The experiment is being closed in Lahore and Gurgaon. In Lyallpur a fresh start had to be made in 1907 owing to the ravages of boll-worm in the preceding years. In Dera Gházi Khan the experiment does not show much chance of appreciable success.

Punjab Veterinary College.

86. The receipts of the Lahore Veterinary College show an increase of Rs. 3,368, proportionately distributed over the various heads. Contingent expenditure was Rs. 10,879 less than last year, when a large amount was spent on laboratory apparatus. At the close of the year there were 261 students in the college, as against 287 last year. The three year's classes contain respectively 88, 103 and 70 students. It is satisfactory that the number of new admissions has been reduced. The latest number however is still too large if the students are to receive proper individual attention. More than 62 per cent. are Muhammadans. Work in the segregation ward has been satisfactory. New buildings are being gradually completed. A head farrier has now been engaged, and his appointment has resulted in an increase of Rs. 500 in the forge receipts.

Civil Veterinary Department.

87. A new system of collecting statistics of disease has been introduced this year of requiring village headmen to report through the subordinate revenue officials all outbreaks of epidemic disease. The system has begun to work well. The feature of the year's administration has been the introduction of the new system of working for Veterinary Assistants, by which there is only one itinerating man in each district, while the rest are stationary in the hospitals.

The stationary men have to leave their hospitals to attend all outbreaks of contagious disease, and the arrangements will not be complete till each hospital has two Veterinary Assistants, who will tour alternately. The Simla Veterinary Hospital has been transferred to the Simla municipality, but remains under the supervision of the department. Owing to pressure of other work, nothing was done in the direction of district cattle surveys.

88. Deaths from equine contagious disease in non-selected districts rose from 38 to 107, *surra* being the cause of 90 deaths, against 19 in the previous year. Yet the year under report, owing to drought, was a particularly healthy one for animals. The total number of deaths from contagious disease was 15,375 against 17,375, but the number of cases reported was 59,938 against 102,412 in the previous year. The decrease is most apparent in rinderpest and foot and mouth disease. Preventive inoculation against hæmorrhagic septicæmia was suspended, as the serum was found to be of doubtful efficacy.

The subordinate staff numbers 128, being 30 short of the full complement desired: it continues to improve in efficiency.

Condition of cattle.

89. The year was a bad one agriculturally, so the supply of green fodder was insufficient. The districts of the Delhi division fared better than might have been expected, thanks to large accumulations of jowar and chari stalks after a good *kharif* in 1906. Fodder was scarce in the Ráwalpindi division.

Agricultural posts.

90. This year boll-worm, which has done such extensive damage to the cotton crop of previous years, was extremely rare. The winter of 1906-07 was a mild one, and the history of the year furnishes strong evidence in support of Mr. Lefroy's theory that the outbreak in 1905 was due to the exceptionally severe cold of January and February of that year, which practically annihilated the parasite which normally keeps boll-worm in check. The study of boll-worm and its parasites is being continued. A case of ear-cockle in wheat was investigated, and led to the discovery that the disease is perhaps indigenous, but it does not appear to be normally virulent.

Loans to agriculturists.

91. Only Rs. 1,26,499 were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act in the year 1906-07 against Rs. 1,90,430 in the previous year, and under the Agriculturists Loans Act only Rs. 2,77,119 against Rs. 9,96,916. Under the former Act Rs. 1,66,846 were recovered out of a total realisable demand (principal only) including arrears of Rs. 1,82,965, and under the latter Act Rs. 7,38,735 out of Rs. 9,44,044. Under the former Act the Government has a financial gain of Rs. 29,265, and under the latter a loss of Rs. 25,403; so on the total loan operations for the year 1906-07 the net gain was Rs. 3,862.

Co-operative credit societies.

92. The progress recorded is of a substantial character. Rural societies have increased in number from 174 to 253, their total assets have risen from roughly $2\frac{3}{4}$ to over $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs and the surplus at the end of the year (Rs. 53,864) is twice as large as in July 1907. That societies have not failed entirely to meet the exceptional demands made upon them is proved by the fact that the amount of capital out on loan to members is twice as great as last year, and over $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs were lent in the twelve months. As the normal rate of interest taken by societies is less than 10 per cent., while that demanded by private money-lenders in a year of scarcity is anything above 25 per cent., the great benefits that have already accrued from the movement are obvious.

93. There are still some points which require criticism. The most unsatisfactory feature in the history of the movement so far has been the large number of societies that have died at birth or been wound up after a brief and inglorious existence. In most cases misguided official zeal has been the cause of the fiasco. In the review of the first report and again last year the need of caution in founding societies under official influence and the danger of failure were emphasised, but the history of the movement in the Gujrát and Siálkot districts during the past year would seem to show that the lesson has not yet been fully learned.

94. There can be no question as to the advantage of enlisting the sympathies of the village money-lender. That he should show a certain amount of hostility to the movement is inevitable, though the Registrar perhaps takes an exaggerated view of its intensity. But the sahukar is an excellent businessman and knows that the courts cannot recover for him anything like the amount found to be his due, and if he is convinced that financing a Co-operative Bank at a moderate rate of interest is an absolutely safe investment, he will probably be willing to seek through its agency a suitable means of employing his capital. That the hostility of small money-lenders will cease entirely is not to be hoped for, but much can be done to mitigate it to the great advantage of both parties.

95. Among districts, Gurdáspur still leads the co-operative movement, though during the past year better progress was made in Lyallpur than in any other district. It speaks well not only for the prosperity, but also for the enterprise of the colonists in the Chenab Canal colony that in addition to founding societies which are solvent and flourishing, they have in most cases adopted bye-laws providing that surplus funds will be lent to societies established in the villages in which the colonists originally resided. Though no surplus funds are yet available, some societies established in other districts mainly owe their origin to this hope of assistance. This has led the Registrar to think that it would be easy to establish a Central Bank at Lyallpur.

Prices.

96. The year under report is that ending 15th January 1908. Prices were very slightly above normal at the beginning of the year, but they rose rapidly with the failure of the monsoon and the active demand for grain in the United Provinces. The grain of both harvests sold at extraordinarily high prices, wheat being 77 per cent. above the average normal harvest price, unginned cotton 31 per cent., and gram as much as 114 per cent. It is said that the agriculturists of the Chenab colony have never made larger profits than those derived from the grain and toria of the last autumn crop. From September onwards the course of trade was diverted from the seaports to the United Provinces, and to districts whose stocks were in defect, such as Ambála, Rohtak, Gurgaon and Kángra. The year opened with ample reserves, the surplus of several harvests having been stored in some instances. With high prices the whole of this was placed on the market and disposed of. There has been no scarcity of grain in the province taken as a whole.

28. Weather and Crops.

The annual rains.

97. All districts were in defect as regards total rainfall except Hissar, Montgomery, Jhelum, Miánwáli, Lyallpur and Muzaffargarh, which were slightly above the average. But the figures for these districts are misleading. The rainfall was untimely and badly distributed everywhere, and the dominating features of the meteorology of the year were the premature termination of the monsoon, the late arrival and inadequacy of the winter rains, and the drought of February and March.

The kharif rains.

March and April 1907 were marked by heavy general rain, the rainfall during April being 311 per cent. in excess of the normal. These conditions were extremely injurious to the standing wheat crop, but were favourable for sugarcane and cotton sowings. May and June were about normal, except for heavy rain in the South-West, Central and West Punjab on the 7th of June which was of no particular value to the agriculturist. The monsoon was somewhat late in reaching the Punjab. Holding off until the 20th of July, it was feeble during that month, but strengthened during August and gave ample, continuous and general rain up to the 24th, when the current withdrew abruptly and completely. September, October, November and December were rainless except for a few very scattered and light showers in the first week of September. The monsoon, although belated, was in time to permit of almost a normal area being brought under cultivation, conditions being more favourable in the Delhi division than in other parts of the province. The

prospects of the crop were remarkably hopeful until the third week of August, but the cessation of the monsoon three weeks before the usual time was absolutely disastrous, and most of the dry crop was practically a total failure. Special mention should be made of good falls registered in parts of the Hissar district in the last weeks of June and July. Early sowings of bajra on the June showers came to maturity and contributed largely towards the escape of the district from severe scarcity. The supply of water in the Western Jumna Canal was very deficient in this harvest as well as thoughout the rabi. Large areas were affected by the lowness of the rivers, inundation canals generally opening rather late and closing early and river floods being very disappointing.

The rabi rains.

The untimely withdrawal of the monsoon current left the soil too dry for sowings on unirrigated land except in a few sandy tracts where measures had been taken to conserve the available moisture. There was an immense contraction in unirrigated autumn sowings, and some reduction also on irrigated land owing to the shortage of water in perennial canals and the early stoppage of inundation canals. It was hoped that the winter rains would begin sufficiently early for extensive supplementary sowings on unirrigated lands in the Central and North Punjab. But these hopes were not realised, the first fall being delayed until January 10th, when excellent rain was received all over the province. This was very late, but, in spite of this, large areas of wheat, barley and *masr* were sown as far south as Ambála. Occasional light local showers until the 3rd of February helped germination and materially improved the prospects of the standing crop. But, from this point onwards, adverse conditions again reasserted themselves strongly, and no further rain was registered until April 1st when a week's cloudy and wet weather just before the harvest improved the outturn of those standing crops which had been sown in the autumn and saved the late sown crops in the Salt Range. The late sown crop was unable to survive the drought of February and March except in the Salt Range districts where the straw was very short and the outturn about $\frac{1}{4}$th of the normal. With good rain in February and March this crop would have been successful over a wide area. A very serious shortage of water has to be recorded in all the canals.

The autumn harvest.

98. The area placed under kharif crops was 11,405,027 acres. This represents an advance of 483,160 acres or 4 per cent. on the previous year, but is 8 per cent. less than the normal. The principal increases compared with the quinquennial average were 13 and 5 per cent. in Hissar and Multán respectively. A decrease of 21 per cent. occurred in Siálkot, and decreases ranging from 11 to 17 per cent. are reported from Montgomery, Jhelum, Lahore, Miánwáli, Muzaffargarh, Gujrát and Gujránwála. The most noteworthy variations under the more important crops were as follows :—

	Area in 1906.	Area in 1907.	Difference in acres.
	Acres.	Acres.	
Jowar	1,557,818	1,368,753	− 189,065
Bajra	2,501,351	2,629,254	+ 127,903
Sugarcane	279,317	393,727	+ 114,410
Cotton	1,260,510	1,317,850	+ 57,340
Chari	1,252,963	1,603,979	+ 351,016

The severe frost of February 1905, which destroyed almost all the standing seed canes, led to a sharp contraction in the sugarcane area in 1905 and 1906. But the area sown last year was 13 per cent. above the average, and this may be attributed to the high price of *gur* and to timely rain in April. It is satisfactory that the crop is rapidly becoming more popular on the Chenab and Jhelum Canals. There being very little apprehension of a recurrence of boll-worm, there was a further recovery in the cotton area and the normal area was placed under this crop.

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The spring harvest.

99. In the rabi 13,123,383 acres were sown as against 18,963,681 acres last year. The contraction amounted to 121,565 acres under irrigated and 5,718,733 under unirrigated crops. The total area is 12 per cent. below the normal, and would have been much less but for late sowings on unirrigated land in January. The falling-off, which is distributed over all districts, is entirely due to the sudden termination of the monsoon which left the soil too dry for sowings on unirrigated land, and caused a short supply of water in canals. The chief variations in important staples were as follows :—

	Area in 1906-07.	Area in 1907-08.	Difference in acres.
	Acres.	Acres.	
Barley	1,334,922	1,359,929	+ 25,007
Wheat	9,657,171	7,393,314	— 2,263,857
Gram	4,629,459	1,769,332	— 2,860,127
Oilseeds	1,446,304	870,788	— 575,516

The stability of the area under barley is due to its quick-maturing quality which led to very extensive sowings in January. It will be noticed that the contractions under wheat, gram and oilseeds make up almost the entire shortage in the rabi, but it should be remembered that the wheat, gram and oilseeds sowings of 1906-07 were abnormally large. The areas under wheat and oilseeds in the year under report were, after all, only 5 per cent. and 22 per cent. below the normal, respectively.

Irrigation.

100. The total irrigated area, 10,792,531 acres, is 24,204 acres more than in 1906-07, but is considerably below the maximum normal irrigated area of 1905-06, which amounted to 11,469,499 acres. A record area would certainly have been brought under cultivation but for the serious shortage of water in all canals and in tanks, which led to a contraction in the area irrigated from canals, tanks and other sources. A large decrease of 141,982 acres in the canal-irrigated area in Lyallpur is partly due to the decision of the canal department to reduce irrigation to 75 per cent. on the allotted area so as to prevent over-cropping and provide for new schemes. The resources of the province as regards well irrigation were fully utilised. All available masonry wells were worked to their utmost capacity, and temporary non-masonry wells were sunk wherever the water level was sufficiently near the surface. Masonry wells in use increased in number from 246,041 to 252,252 and non-masonry wells from 33,133 to 42,406. The well irrigated area was 3,989,295 acres as against 3,132,151 acres in 1906-07.

29. Horticulture and Arboriculture.

Horticulture.

101. In the Lahore Agri-Horticultural Gardens there was a surplus on the year's working of Rs. 2,249. The income from the sale of fruit was much less, as the area under fruit trees has been still further reduced. This area is being converted into lawns. The water-supply has been much improved. The season was very unfavourable, yet the income from the sale of garden produce was higher than in any previous year. Forty gardeners were sent to fill vacancies in the province and beyond its limits. The demand for skilled men exceeds the supply.

The gardens at Gujránwála and Amritsar are in a flourishing condition. New gardens have been started at Nikanawan in the Shahpur district, at two places in the Ráwalpindi district, and at one place in the Kángra district.

Arboriculture.

102. The report is a triennial one, and deals with the period from 1905-06 to 1907-08. District Boards have now 8,308·64 miles of avenues, a net increase of 792·40, while the length planted is 1,148 miles, of which 222 have failed. This figure is to be compared with only 598 miles planted in the

previous triennium. Groves have decreased from 4,835 acres to 4,823 and plantations have increased from 1,896 acres to 1,927. At the close of the triennium the Irrigation Department had 5,007 miles of avenues out of a total length of 8,773 suitable for planting. The length planted in the period under review was 1,443 against 1,007 in the previous period. Plantations increased from 22,517 acres to 24,254. The Public Works Department showed 1,046 miles planted out of 1,356 suitable for planting.

The financial results were not good: the Public Works Department, Provincial divisions, alone showed a surplus of Rs. 21,127, while the District Boards showed a deficit of Rs. 3,16,808 and the Irrigation Department a deficit of Rs. 3,18,256.

30. Forests.

Area.

103. The area under the management of the Forest Department was reduced from 9,330·88 square miles to 9,138·57 square miles. Nothing has yet been decided about the exact areas to be transferred to the irrigation colonies.

Settlements.

104. The Bhedpur forest of 631 acres was finally constituted a reserved forest. Much trouble is caused in certain divisions, notably in Kángra and Kulu, by reason of the forest settlement having been made under chapter IV of the Forest Act instead of under chapter II.

Demarcation.

105. The demarcated boundaries are 10,847 miles in length. Much improvement is still required, but divisional officers have little time to devote to this work.

Surveys.

106. There have been no new departmental surveys. The expenditure incurred was chiefly for mapping charges.

Working plans.

107. The prescriptions of existing working plans were generally carried out. Working plans are required for 4,764 square miles, chiefly in the Lahore, Chenab, Shahpur, Multán and Montgomery divisions, but as these will be affected by the introduction of irrigated colonies, no steps can yet be taken.

Communications and buildings.

108. Only 2 miles of cart road and 68 miles of paths were made, against 152 miles last year. The want of progress arose to some extent from the necessity for curtailing expenditure on account of the prevailing scarcity, but it was chiefly due to the large number of officers of two or three years' service whom it was necessary to place in charge of heavy divisions, the services of senior men not being available.

The much-required work of improving the housing accommodation of the department was hindered by the same causes.

Forest offences.

109. The total cases of the year show an increase of 1,151, chiefly under the head of illicit felling. The number of cases taken into court was 861, and convictions were obtained in 80·25 per cent. The number of cases compounded rose from 4,346 to 5,247. At the same time further enquiries by the Conservator, and a discussion of this question at the Forest Conference, leave no room for doubting how undesirable it is to use section 67 to the extent now prevailing: not only does it enable unscrupulous subordinates to obtain illicit gratification, but also it prevents the infliction of deterrent punishments.

Protection from fire.

110. The area which the department attempted to protect rose by 19,883 to 607,828 acres. Of this no less than 2·82 per cent. or 17,153 acres were burnt. The total cost of protection was Rs. 6,360, an increase of Rs. 1,360. The number of fires increased from 281 to 380, but the area burnt by each fire was considerably below the average in most divisions.

Protection from cattle.

111. 19·23 per cent. of the total area was entirely or partially closed to grazing. The increase in the number and size of the flocks of sheep in the lower hills is still more marked, and a speedy decision is necessary on the policy to be adopted with regard to the conflict between forest conservancy on the one hand and the immediate interests of the people on the other.

Protection against injury from natural causes.

112. In Ráwalpindi and Kulu the beetles attacking the *pinus excelsa* have been identified. A similar pest in the Simla catchment area forest has not been successfully dealt with so far. From Chamba the deodar is reported as being attacked by a bark-boring beetle, not yet identified.

Sylviculture.

113. Throughout the province the drought was inimical to successful work. The cost of plantations is being found to be excessive, and the better plan is to resort to more sowing until we have a subordinate establishment which can be trusted to do good planting work without perpetual supervision. In Simla a number of new species of eucalyptus are being tried, and experiments in resin tapping are being made in Kángra.

Exploitation.

114. The shortage of railway waggons still greatly hampers the sale of firewood from Changa Manga, although the number of waggons supplied rose from 1,334 in 1906-07 to 1,640 in the year under report. It is being found advisable to extend the use of purchasers' agency in the case of wood sold, though it is also found that the abandonment of departmental works gives considerably less relief to the establishment of all ranks than was expected.

Financial results.

115. The total revenue was Rs. 15,60,064, a decrease of Rs. 4,936, due to the retrocession of the Chamba forests. The total expenditure rose by Rs. 27,239 to Rs. 11,84,668. The cash surplus of Rs. 3,75,396 is less than the average of the five past years by Rs. 2,24,099. The reason is partly that the sale of timber appears to have been of surplus stock, and partly that the transfer of the Chamba forests involves a decrease of about a lakh of rupees. Now that departmental sales of wood hardly exist it is much more difficult to ascertain the tendency of the timber market than used to be the case when the department was a large seller. But there seems to be a distinct tendency for the price of all kinds of timber to rise in the Punjab.

31. Mines and Quarries.

Gold.

116. Small quantities of gold to the value of Rs. 9,587 were obtained from washings in the Indus, Jhelum and Sutlej, where they issue from the hills.

Petroleum.

117. One thousand and ten gallons of petroleum were collected in the Miánwáli and Attock districts.

Alum.

118. Seven thousand and five hundred maunds of alum, worth Rs. 75,000, were produced in the Miánwáli district.

Coal.

119. The only mines of importance are those worked by the North-Western Railway at Dandot and Khost. The former yielded 36,459, and the latter 29,378 tons of coal. In both cases work was hampered by lack of labour.

Salt.

120. The amount of salt produced at the cis-Indus and Kálabágh mines and at the Sultánpur salt works was 2,942,648 maunds, as compared with 2,935,737 maunds in the previous year.

32. Manufactories.

Large industries.

121. The total number of factories increased from 235 to 253, of which 16 belong to Government. The number of gins has outrun the available supply of raw cotton, but flour and rice mills are also becoming very popular. In many of these less than 20 persons are employed; so they are not technically factories. The number of persons employed in factories is 23,286 men, 3,420 women and 1,290 children.

General condition of factories.

122. Fifty factories were inspected once, 76 twice, and 68 more than twice. Of the 59 factories which were not inspected at all, 34 were permanently closed, and of the remaining 25 many were visited, but were found closed. On the whole, there seems to have been a great improvement in the reality and the thoroughness of the inspections. The sanitary condition is generally satisfactory, except in the case of several factories in Lahore. A matter which requires more general attention is the necessity of suitable

arrangements in case of fire. The general health of the operatives is reported as good. The wages earned in factories are generally higher than agricultural labourers can obtain, and the workers are generally satisfied within their lot. There were 251 accidents in 1907 as compared with 279 in 1906. Of these 14 were fatal and 25 serious.

Iron and steel industries.

123. An interesting monograph on iron and steel industries in the Punjab has been written by Mr. G. Worsley, Assistant Commissioner. It shows that the work of the village blacksmith remains of the same character as it was a hundred years ago, being confined to the manufacture of rough unfinished implements, chiefly for agricultural use. The craftsman in the towns shows a considerable improvement. In many cases he developes considerable skill, and under competent supervision in workshops and factories is capable of doing good work. Apart from work in railway workshops and the like, there are various branches of industry. Iron safes, steel trunks, &c., are made in Gujránwála. Locks are made in Jullundur, Ludhiána, Delhi, Siálkot, Gujrát and Rúpar in the Ambála district. Cutlery is made in Gujránwála and Siálkot and at Bhera in the Shahpur district. At Batála in the Gurdáspur district flour mills and sugarcane presses are made: and occasionally lathes of quite good workmanship.

With regard to artistic work, there is scarcely any to be found in the Punjab except some damascene work in Siálkot and Gujrát. There is very little demand for it, and the work is almost entirely of a cheaper and poorer quality. Some artistic cutlery is made at Bhera, but the manufacture of the metal part is very simple, and the only artistic part is the handle made of a kind of jade, either plain or a mosaic of this jade with a black stone and a white stone.

33. Trade.

Total trade.

124. The total trade by rail and river of the province in each of the past three years, excluding animals and treasure, is shown in the subjoined table:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1905-06	34,265,921	22,08,16,773	43,175,245	18,36,15,749
1906-07	28,696,430	22,37,04,458	54,837,968	21,88,30,406
1907-08	40,801,583 11/40	25,91,77,359	62,943,875 1/2	28,56,00,964

The figures for imports show an abnormal increase in weight and value, far exceeding those of all previous years, the value being actually 3½ crores of rupees greater than that of last year.

Exports have also increased extraordinarily by no less than 8,105,907 maunds in weight and over 6½ crores of rupees in value. These figures represent the great demand for food-grains in the United Provinces and Bengal, to which the bulk of the exports of grain and pulse were sent.

The explanation of the high value of the increased exports, as compared with the weight, is to be found in the high prices obtaining for food-grains in the areas affected by famine to which the exports mainly took place.

The steady and marked increase in value, especially of the exports, is a clear indication of the rapid growth in general prosperity of the province.

All imports have advanced, principally piece-goods and yarns; but the main advance has been made in exports, wheat and cotton being the chief contributaries.

The wheat export reached nearly one million tons in spite of the bad kharif.

There are complaints of large admixtures of castor-seed with the cotton seed exported.

Trade in grain.

125. Traffic in "Grain and Pulse" for the last three years is shown in the following table :—

Years.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1905-06	1,887,188	66,58,215	33,221,977	9,17,25,269
1906-07	1,218,101	46,47,519	44,612,716	11,99,50,457
1907-08	2,020,288	49,74,723	52,421 281	18,80,85,332

The figures for exports give an abnormal increase of 7,808,565 maunds with a value of nearly 7 crores of rupees over the figures of last year. This alone accounts for nearly all the increased weight of exports shown in paragraph 124 and more than accounts for the increased value, thus emphasizing again the facts that the Punjab export trade is mainly one of food-grains, and that it produces far more grain than it consumes, the value of the surplus exported last year having equalled six times the land-revenue demand of the province.

The imports are also abnormal, practically double the maundage and more than double the value in rupees of the previous year, and is mainly due to the increased imports of jowar, bajra and rice not in the husk, to supplement the large exports of wheat and gram.

Animals and treasure.

126. The trade in animals shows slight increase both in imports and exports, but the only important increase is in the number of horned cattle imported from the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. This is doubtless due to the famine and fodder scarcity and the cheaper prices prevailing in consequence.

The imports of treasure are more than 213 lakhs above the figures of last year, while the exports have fallen by more than 85 lakhs.

The total figures for treasure are—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1906-07	3,38,94,394	1,44,81,652
1907-08	5,52,15,095	59,19,111
Difference ...	2,13,20,701	85,62,541

The large increase of imports of silver bullion may be ascribed to the following causes :—

(1) The failure of the 1907 monsoon and the subsequent scarcity which enabled grain dealers and agriculturists to sell their stocks at abnormally high rates. Their savings were consequently greater than usual and were invested in silver bullion or expended in the purchase of heavy silver jewellery.

(2) The increase in the number of marriages among Hindus in the early part of the year, owing to the fact that no marriages are possible for some 18 months to come among them, with the result that silver bullion for the manufacture of ornaments was in much greater demand than usual.

The decrease in the exports of silver coin seems to be accounted for by the fact that in the normal years coin is chiefly exported from the Punjab to purchase grain in the United Provinces, whereas last year there was no grain available.

River-borne trade.

127. The imports have increased by over 47 thousand maunds in weight and about 5½ lakhs of rupees in value. The exports are also better by over 7½ lakhs of maunds in weight and 44 lakhs of rupees in value.

The following comparative table gives the figures for the past three years :—

Years.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1905-06	162,910	11,06,501	1,494,376	51,45,064
1906-07	166,090	11,38,647	1,617,683	49,78,591
1907-08	213,610	16,87,021	2,375,937	93,81,180

Imports.

128. There is a satisfactory increase of 44 lakhs of rupees in the value of coal and coke, due no doubt to the industrial development of the province. The number of factories for the year 1907 has increased from 235 to 253, the great majority being cotton ginning and pressing factories, and all requiring coal or coke for their engines.

There was an increase of over 143 lakhs of rupees in the imports of cotton piece-goods, European, and a decrease in cotton piece-goods, Indian, of over 64 lakhs.

The increases under jowar and bajra and rice not in the husk amounting collectively to 46½ lakhs of rupees are probably due to the importation of these cereals to replace the increased exports of wheat, gram and the other food stuffs. The increase in gunny bags is due to the increased exports of food-grains.

Kerosine shows a tendency to increase, the popularity of this oil as an illuminant being now assured. Moreover, on the score of its cheapness it is now ousting mustard oil, formerly more generally in use in native homes. There was a decrease of about 7 lakhs of rupees in the value of liquors imported the previous year, but this year the imports have increased by 24 lakhs of rupees. The idea that European imported liquors are a prophylactic for plague far superior to country liquors may account in part for this increase.

The increase in the import of oilseeds is growing yearly since 1904-05 when they were valued at 23 lakhs rising to 63 and 94 lakhs in the two succeeding years. This year the figures amounted to nearly 126 lakhs of rupees. The difference of 101½ lakhs in all kinds of railway materials is attributed to the doubling of the North-Western Railway now under contemplation.

Sugar refined has also increased by 60 thousand maunds in weight and by 9½ lakhs of rupees in value, due chiefly to the large imports from Karáchi, testifying to the influx of beet and cane sugar from foreign countries.

Violent fluctuations have occurred in the import of gold coin and silver bullion, but the slight increases under other heads call for no particular comment.

A most marked decrease was that in apparel, which has fallen off by about twenty thousand maunds in weight, with a drop of 41½ lakhs in value, whereas till this year the imports of apparel were leaping up year by year. The low value rate is also responsible for the decreased valuation this year. Cotton, raw, fell in value by 54½ lakhs owing to diminished imports from the United Provinces, Rájpútána and Central India, where the crop was poor.

The decrease in cotton yarn and piece-goods, Indian, has already been noticed.

Imports of hides and skins fell by 9 lakhs of rupees, due partly perhaps to the high rates charged for them by the North-Western Railway.

Exports.

129. The increase of about 48 lakhs in the value of cotton, raw, is due to the good crop of 1906 which was exported after ginning in the current year. As already noticed the chief increases are in the export of food stuffs. The value of wheat increased by 365½ lakhs, of gram and pulse by 109 lakhs, and of wheat flour and other grains by 213 lakhs. The increase is doubtless due to the good harvest of rabi 1907 and the demand due to the prevalence of famine in the United Provinces. The high prices for food-grains are responsible for the swelling of the values.

A slight increase also occurred in the export of cotton piece-goods, Indian marble and stone, salt and timber unwrought. The increase of over 16 lakhs in the exports of railway materials, other sorts, is due to railway extensions in other provinces.

The largest decrease is one of 58 lakhs in the export of hides and skins which appears to be due to low prices prevailing at Karáchi, coupled with the rise in freights charged on hides and skins. In this connection the Manager of the North-Western Railway was addressed by the Secretary to the Punjab Chamber of Commerce, and has replied that the question will be considered this year. At the same time the North-Western Railway authorities consider that the falling-off in the trade in hides and skins is more properly due to the unfavourable rates offered by the merchants of Boston and Philadelphia, the two main emporia of this branch of the trade in hides. In Lahore and Amritsar certain godowns are said to be full of hides, and the moment a favourable rate is offered by American traders the traffic with Karáchi is expected to revive. There is, however, reason to fear that the increased North-Western Railway rates may tend to dislocate the Punjab trade. The falling-off in the exports of hides amounted to 50 per cent., while whole skins fell off by 30 per cent. The slack trade in Amritsar shawls may in part account for the drop of over 10 lakhs of rupees in woollen manufactures.

Under silver coin there was a decrease of 89 lakhs and over, due probably to an increase in hoarding. The small variations in other articles call for no remarks.

Distribution of the trade.

130. The largest share, both of imports and exports, continues to be taken by Karáchi through which port the majority of the Punjab trade passes. The United Provinces, Bombay and Calcutta are the chief competitors of Karáchi.

The following table shows the main centres, and the percentages of the rail and river borne trade of the Punjab with those centres, calculated on the values of imports and exports:—

Trade Centres.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Karáchi	40·02	41·38	41·40	42·99
Bombay Port	13·57	16·12	9·62	7·39
United Provinces	25·51	20·23	20·43	31·97
Calcutta	8·45	9·24	8·39	5·25

From the above it will be seen that Karáchi still continues to improve her position, especially as regards exports. The total sea-borne trade of Karáchi this year reached a value of Rs. 38,86,79,799 in all.

TRADE WITH TRANS-FRONTIER COUNTRIES.

131. The year has been one of change and confusion in the registration of trade. The returns for this year do not show the traffic by routes separately, as the registration by routes was introduced only from the middle of the year and the figures are unreliable. The trade with Ladákh is registered at Sultánpur (Kulu), but has in many cases been confused with trade for Tibet. The confusion is increased by the frequent use of Tibet for Little Tibet or Baltistán. General.

132. Subject to the elements of error noted, the imports from Ladákh amount to 2,565 maunds of a value of Rs. 2,93,125 as compared with 6,401 maunds valued at Rs. 6,13,029 last year. In reality there has not been much decrease, and the variations are due chiefly to statistical changes. The imports of borax and raw wool have been shown under Tibet, and they account for about 3,000 maunds and Rs. 64,000 out of the decrease. There has been an increase of some 400 maunds in the imports of *charas*, but the valuation has this year been based on the price, less duty, and this accounts for a decrease of nearly 3 lakhs of rupees. Growth of trade.

The exports to Ladákh have been 4,116 maunds valued at Rs. 1,28,821 as compared with 5,876 maunds valued at Rs. 1,53,522 last year.

The imports from Tibet are 8,404 maunds valued at Rs. 2,10,899, compared with 4,679 maunds valued at Rs. 1,06,701 in 1906-07. The exports are 1,296 maunds, value Rs. 28,464, compared with 1,001 maunds, value Rs. 42,404. The trade in brass and copper, which was formerly considerable, has almost disappeared.

The incompleteness of the statistics forbids any appreciation of the Afghanistán trade.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

133. The number of companies with share capital has risen from 87 to 96. Sixteen new companies were registered and seven became defunct during the year. Four of the new companies belong to Multán. Number of companies.

The registration of one company had to be refused, as one of its objects was the execution of a secret agreement, and section 8 of the Act does not permit of the concealment of the real objects of a company.

134. The nominal capital of all companies has risen from 285 to 336 lakhs of rupees, and the paid-up capital from 116 lakhs to 139 lakhs. The largest increase in nominal capital is that of the Bharat Insurance Company (5 lakhs). Capital.

34. Public Works.

135. The total outlay for the year amounted to Rs. 68,65,279 under the following main heads :—

	Rs.
Imperial Military Works	3,77,449
Imperial Civil Works	11,59,945
Provincial Works	43,29,988
Incorporated Local Works	3,20,942
Contribution Works (including local loans)	6,76,955
	68,65,279

These figures exclude a sum of Rs. 8,613 expended by this Department on famine relief works, and Rs. 9,456 expended by district officers on

acquisition of land for the Southern Punjab and Amritsar-Tarn Táran-Patti Railways; also Rs. 9,396 on account of miscellaneous railway expenditure, representing establishment charges of the Railway Inspector, audited by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Punjab.

Famine relief works.

136. No famine relief works were undertaken, but, as there was a possibility of their being required in the Delhi and Ferozepore divisions, preliminary arrangements were made. About Rs. 4,000 were spent on purchase of tools and Rs. 12,212 on providing extra establishment and digging trial pits for preparation of relief work projects in the Hissar district.

Imperial military works.

137. The principal works carried out were in the Jhelum colony and the Lyallpur district, chiefly roads and buildings for the Army Remount Department.

Imperial civil works.

138. Alterations and improvements were carried out at Simla. The Accountant-General's office at Lahore was well advanced towards completion; at Kasauli two estates were purchased for the Pasteur and Research Institutes, and alterations made in a third.

Provincial works—Buildings.

139. A new tahsil was built at Sargodha, and a Naib Tahsildar's court at Náthána in the Ferozepore district. The Public Works Secretariat offices at Lahore were completed: Rs. 30,958 were spent on repairs to antiquities in Lahore and Delhi.

Additions were made to the Government College, Lahore, and the work of rebuilding Bishop Cotton School, Simla, was completed. A new court house was built for the District Judge at Gurdáspur; electric fans were fitted in the District Court, Lahore; the Sessions House at Lyallpur was completed; new District Jails at Lyallpur and Campbellpur were completed; Rs. 2,54,415 were spent on new police stations.

Residences were built at Delhi for the Settlement Officer, at Ambála for the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, at Campbellpur for the Deputy Commissioner's Head Clerk, at Ráwalpindi for the Commissioner's Head Clerk, at Lyallpur for an Assistant Engineer. Work on the Agricultural College at Lyallpur was still in progress, about four-fifths having been completed; other buildings in connection with the college were completed.

Roads.

140. The provincial outlay on works amounted to Rs. 3,74,074 and on repairs to Rs. 10,02,065. The decrease on works is due to half the outlay on new feeder roads having been debited against district funds according to the proposals made during the previous year. Good progress was made in carrying out the programme of new feeder roads prepared in 1906.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

141. Additions to the Lawrence and Montgomery Halls at Lahore were completed. The Ludhiána water-works were nearly completed. The water-supply scheme for the Agricultural College at Lyallpur was nearly completed. The conservancy tram-line at Lahore was completed, and drainage schemes in Lahore, Amritsar and Multán were completed.

Railways.

North-Western Railway.

142. The following surveys were completed on the 5′ 6″ gauge:—

(1) The Jullundur Doab group railways comprising a line from Hoshiárpur *viá* Jullundur, Kapurthala, Sultánpur, Núrmahal, Phagwára to Nawashahr, with branches to Garhshankar and Ráhon, 124·27 miles.

(2) From Patti to Kasúr, 27·46 miles.

(3) For doubling the line between Amritsar and Saháranpur excluding the Beas, Sutlej and Jumna bridges, 195·55 miles.

(4) From Dhak to Katha, 11·04 miles.

(5) On the 2′ 6″ gauge, for an extension of the Kálka-Simla Railway from its present terminus at Simla to the old bullock train offices, about ½ a mile.

The following surveys were in progress :—

(1) From Kasúr *viâ* Haveli and Pákpattan to Lodhrán, 210 miles on the 5′ 6″ gauge.

(2) From Mundra to Basal, 100 miles, on the 2′ 6″ gauge.

Discontent found to be prevailing among the employés was removed without inconvenience to the public.

The following important works were completed :—the doubling of the line from Samasata to Rohri, 208 miles, and the renewal and doubling of weak plate-girders on this length ; the conversion from the 2′ 6″ to the 5′ 6″ gauge of the Khushálgarh-Kohát section of the Khushálgarh-Kohát-Thal Railway, 30·25 miles ; and the construction of the second wing of the new central offices at Lahore, of the new engine-erecting shops at Lahore, and of the new bridge over the Indus at Khushálgarh.

There were four serious train accidents during the year.

A length of 55·57 miles from Sangla Hill to Shahdára (near Lahore) was added during the year.

The number of passengers carried was 39,910,000 compared with 33,588,000 in the previous year and the net earnings rose to Rs. 3,74,52,000. The percentage of working expenses to gross earnings showed a slight fall to 51·90 per cent. 8,464,000 tons of goods were carried.

143. On the 3rd June 1908 the Delhi electric tramways were opened, and are now in good working order. They are worked on the overhead wire system. **Tramways.**

35. Irrigation.

144. The direct receipts of the Irrigation Department during 1907-08 were Rs. 1,88,10,201, and the direct expenditure Rs. 1,21,41,108, the latter being divided into capital Rs. 45,79,473 and working expenses Rs. 75,61,635. In addition to direct receipts, the indirect revenue credited to the canals on account of enhanced land revenue, &c., was Rs. 32,37,044. Compared with 1906-07 the net profit during the year shows a falling-off of Rs. 21,07,876. **General.**

The main causes of this falling-off are :—General reduction of irrigation due to partial failure of the monsoon and the low supplies obtaining in the rivers during the rabi season ; heavy special remissions on the Lower Chenab and Upper Bari Doab Canals of charges on wheat and gram crops ruined by untimely rains at the end of the rabi season. Plague also seriously hampered improvement of irrigation on the Lower Jhelum Canal.

The total area irrigated was 6,039,944 acres compared with 6,642,365, the average of the three years ending 1906-07. Matters of interest relating to the different canals are noticed below.

145. The canal ran throughout the year except for six days in April 1907. The total rainfall in the circle was below that recorded in the previous year, the monsoon having failed almost entirely. The area irrigated was 753,355 acres, which is 64,000 acres less than the maximum area proposed to be irrigated by this canal. The decrease is due to the exceptionally low river. The net income of the year was Rs. 20,18,863, equivalent to 11·63 per cent. on the capital outlay. **Western Jumna Canal.**

146. The rains began very late in July, and were local and fitful in character. They lasted little more than one month altogether, and stopped on the 20th August. The total area irrigated was 1,189,243 acres, which is 0·49 in excess of the area irrigable by design (1,183,442 acres). The profit earned on the British branches was Rs. 21,17,439, equivalent to 8·47 per cent. on capital invested. **Sirhind Canal.**

147. The mean rainfall was much below the average, especially in Gurdáspur district, where it was only 17·31 as compared with an average of 31·37. The system of irrigation in the Lahore and Amritsar districts has been receiving considerable attention, and large estimates are in hand for remodelling the system round Lahore. The banks of the Lahore branch have been raised almost throughout, and in some lengths by as much as four or five feet. **Upper Bari Doab Canal.**

Considerable sums were spent on machinery and stock for the Canal Central Workshops, where an expansion of the works has necessitated an increase of establishment. The net income of the year amounted to Rs. 21,43,198, yielding 10·40 per cent. on capital.

Lower Chenab Canal.

148. The year generally was a dry one, and rainfall was not evenly distributed. The total net area of land allotted at the end of March 1908 was 1,828,727 acres, which shows an increase of only 6,283 acres. The area shown as irrigated is 1,705,296 acres. The net revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 51,15,602, equivalent to a percentage of 18·15 on the capital invested (Rs. 2,81,81,632) to the end of the year. In the previous year the figures were Rs. 68,00,588 and 24·09 respectively.

Lower Jhelum Canal.

149. The mean rainfall was less than the average. No rain whatever fell in September, and consequently the demand for canal water to mature the autumn crop was intense. The area allotted in the colony up to the end of 1907-08 is 341,085 acres. The net area irrigated by the whole canal was 543,529 acres. The net revenue amounted to Rs. 9,11,022, which represents 5·74 per cent. on the capital outlay. The net revenue exceeded the interest charges for the year by Rs. 3,88,691, which is equivalent to 2·45 per cent. of the capital outlay.

Upper Chenab Canal.

150. Work was in progress on this new major work. The year was one of drought, which helped very much the works in hand, and the manufacture of materials. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 41,23,592.

Upper Jhelum Canal.

151. Work was in progress, and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 28,32,180.

Lower Bari Doab Canal.

152. On this new major work a total expenditure was incurred of Rs. 6,18,587. A considerable amount of survey work was done in connection with the site for the Ravi Syphon.

Upper Sutlej Inundation Canals.

153. The year's operations resulted in a profit of Rs. 3,37,451, equivalent to 19·25 per cent. on capital outlay. The area irrigated was 193,853 acres, a large decrease due to much lower supplies in the river, and also to the new system of granting remissions by reduction of area instead of change of class.

Sidhnai Canal.

154. The Sidhnai and its subsidiary canals were in flow 142 days in this year and irrigated 88,841 acres as compared with 183,276, the average of the previous three years.

Indus Inundation Canals.

155. Owing to the abnormally low supply in the river, the area irrigated was only 133,753 acres, compared with 197,110, the average of the previous three years, and the net profit of the year was only Rs. 56,152, equivalent to 2·44 per cent. on capital outlay.

Minor Irrigation Works.

156. On the *Lower Sutlej Inundation Canals* the river did not rise very high, and in consequence a large area of the autumn crop remained unmatured; so the total area matured was only 134,793 acres out of 207,209 watered. The *Chenab Inundation Canals* watered only 1,10,699 acres, but showed the large profit of Rs. 1,79,176 against Rs. 1,04,326 in the preceding year. The increase in profit is due to the satisfactory working of the canals and reduced expenditure. The *Shahpur Imperial and Provincial Canals* irrigated respectively 17,435 and 14,875 acres, much less than the average. Owing to the severe epidemic of plague, which did not abate till May, the cultivators were unable to reap the spring crops at the proper time, with the result that autumn sowings were restricted. The river subsided early. There was a large decrease in irrigation on the *Muzaffargarh Inundation Canals* owing to the unfavourable character of the year, and the same was the case on the *Ghaggar Inundation Canals*. The irrigation on the *Rangoi Canal* was only 1,456 acres, and the Ravi Inundation Canals only 10,846 acres owing to low supplies.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[Detailed information on the subject dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

(*a*)—Departmental Reports.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1907.

Canal Revenue.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the year 1907-08.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab for the year 1907-08.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1907-08.

Stamps.—Report on the Administration of the Stamp Department of the Punjab for 1905-06 to 1907-08.

Income Tax.—Punjab Income Tax Report for 1905—08.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1907-08.

Local Funds.—Review of the Accounts and Administration of District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1907-08.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1907-08.

(*b*)—Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*)—Finance (First issue).

Salt.—Tables 5, 6, 7, 13 and 14.

Stamps.—Tables 5, 23, 24 and 25.

Excise.—Tables 1-A to 5 and table 12.

Income Tax.—Tables 2, 3, 10 and 11.]

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

General.

157. In the following statements for the year ending March 31st, 1908, the income and expenditure of the Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments and Military expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals are omitted.

Revenue.

158. The revenue raised in the Province during 1907-08 is made up as follows, last year's figures being quoted for comparison :—

Sources of revenue.	1906-07.	1907 08.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Land Revenue ...	2,48·76*	2,27·88
Irrigation	2,43·46	2,20·14
Salt	41·40	33·87
Local Rates	27·03	25·45
Stamps	40·48	42·79
Excise and Opium	40·73	42·98
Income Tax	13·32	13·70
Forests	16·05	14·57
Police	6·86	6·46
Civil Works	8·48	8·69
Interest	3·67	3·34
Law and Justice	3·60	3·35
Tribute	2·77	2·76
Registration	2·73	2·77
Jails	1·94	1·83
Education	3·78	4·56
All other items	10·27	11·00
Total receipts	7,15·33	6,66·14

* Excludes Rs. 23,09,000 on account of land revenue due to canals now shown against the head "Irrigation."

Expenditure.

159. The expenditure, excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, Municipal expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals, amounted to Rs. 4,47·75 lakhs in 1907-08. The detailed items, with corresponding figures for the previous year, are given below :—

Departments.	1906-07.	1907-08.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Irrigation	80·27	82·74
Public Works	74·40	81·35
Land Revenue	47·03	47·91
Police	47·08	52·67
Law and Justice	38·59	37·24
Medical	16·78	19·28
Education	27·57	29·18
General Administration	14·40	14·98
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	14·93	15·67
Jails	10·53	10·31
Forests	11·44	11·77
Political	6·43	6·42
Stationery and Printing	6·23	6·93
Scientific and other Minor Departments	6·88	7·29
Salt	3·81	4·29
All other items	17·71	19·72
Total Expenditure	4,24·08	4,47·75

Abstract of Income and expenditure.

160. The following is an abstract of the gross income and expenditure for 1907-08 as recorded in the books of the Accountant-General, Punjab :—

	Receipts.				Expenditure.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue and expenditure.	1,73,77,972	2,97,41,822	37,27,954	5,08,47,748	22,93,576	3,05,29,239	45,22,620	3,73,45,435
Contributions	...	1,46,496	5,31,542	6,78,038	...	5,31,542	1,46,496	6,78,038
Debt and remittance heads.	...	...	...	33,78,61,090	...	...	...	34,33,71,396
Total ...	1,73,77,972	2,98,88,318	42,59,496	38,93,86,876	22,93,576	3,10,60,781	46,69,116	38,13,94,869
Opening balance.	...	...	...	66,70,584	Closing balance		...	1,46,62,591
Grand Total	...	...	...	39,60,57,460	...	...	...	39,60,57,460

37. Land Revenue.

161. The land revenue collections for the year ending 30th September 1907 have been reviewed in Chapter II. The total collections amounted to Rs. 2,00,00,794 fixed, Rs. 46,12,050 fluctuating and Rs. 13,29,961 miscellaneous land revenue.

38. Irrigation.

162. The total capital invested up to the end of 1907-08 amounted to 1,123·8 lakhs, of which 12·7 lakhs were invested in the current year. The income from all sources was 202·8 lakhs which, after deducting working expenses and interest charges, gives a net profit of 94·2 lakhs as compared with 115·3 lakhs in the previous year and 79·2 lakhs in 1905-06. The main causes of the falling-off as compared with last year are the general reduction of irrigation due to partial failure of the monsoon and the low supplies obtaining in the rivers during the rabi season; heavy remissions on the Lower Chenab and Upper Bári Doáb Canals of charges on wheat and gram crops ruined by untimely rain; and to plague which hampered improvements on the Lower Jhelum Canal. The condition of the Irrigation Department has been already discussed in Chapter IV.

39. Opium and Excise Revenue.

163. The income of the province from excise which has been markedly rising for many years past has continued to increase during the year under report, being now 42 lakhs against an income in 1901-02 of barely 25 lakhs. The increase has taken place under all heads; the income from liquor having risen from 16 lakhs to nearly 29, that under opium from 6 lakhs to close on 8, and that under drugs from nearly 3 lakhs to 5½. The increase in income has not, except in the case of drugs, been caused to any appreciable extent by increase in duty, and except under the head of drugs the increase in income is the outcome of a corresponding increase in consumption. That the increase in consumption is not due to increased facilities for obtaining excised material is indicated by the fact that since 1901-02 the number of retail licenses for country liquor has fallen from 1,250 to 947, that of licenses for opium and *post* from 1,456 to 981, and that of those for drugs from 1,250 to 708. There is now but one retail liquor shop for 21,000 persons against one for 16,000 in 1901-02, one retail opium shop for 21,000 persons as against one for 14,000 in 1901-02 and one retail drug shop for 29,000 persons as against one for 16,000 in 1901-02. The causes for the increase in consumption must be sought in other directions, and possibly the belief that spirit is a good prophylactic against plague may have led to more drinking, but there can be little doubt that the most potent factor in the increase is the marked advance in the prosperity of the province generally and more especially the extraordinary rise in wages which has characterized the history of the last few years in the Punjab.

164. The whole of the arrangements relating to excise on liquor are at present under revision in consequence of the recommendations of the Excise Committee of 1906.

165. The experiment introduced on 1st April 1905 in the rural areas of the four central Sikh districts with a view to combating illicit distillation by licensing shops on fixed fees instead of by auction was continued during the year, but the price per bottle was raised from 12 to 14 annas. This rise has led to a decrease of consumption in two of the four districts affected, but the general result of the experiment has been to increase the sales in the areas concerned at a considerably greater rate than the increase experienced in the province at large, and it is still a matter of uncertainty how far the increase is due to the substitution of illicit for licit consumption. It has after careful consideration been decided to continue the experiment until the 31st March 1910, subject to certain modifications in the direction of an increase of the still-head duty, the fixed vend fees and the selling price per bottle.

166. The administration of the Excise Department in respect of opium during the year 1907-08 has been marked by a rise in the sale prices of opium and a large decrease (from 1,200 to 947) in the number of licensed shops. Monopolies for vend have been broken up and the shops for the sale of opium have been separated from those for the sale of hemp drugs. Steps have moreover been taken to carry further the policy of substituting excise opium for other forms of consumption, as arrangements have been made for abolishing at an early date (except in certain small areas) the cultivation of the poppy for opium in the Punjab and for stopping the import of Malwa opium. These two measures will, it is hoped, be practically carried through before the end of the current financial year.

167. Afghánistán opium was for the first time imported into the Punjab during 1907-08. This is an important development of the opium trade. It is said to be of good quality and likely to take the place of Málwa opium in the public taste. The imposition of adequate taxation upon it is a matter of importance before the situation is complicated by the development of a large trade.

168. As in the case of opium, the number of shops for sale of drugs has been very largely reduced during the year and the separation of the two classes of shops has been effected with success. Consumption both of bhang and of charas has decreased, but a rise in the import duty on charas from Rs. 6 to Rs. 8 from 1st April 1907 has sufficed to cause a rise in income. The Excise Commissioner was able during the year under review to pay a visit to Leh, and his report on the circumstances of the charas trade at that place is now under the consideration of the Financial Commissioner.

169. Progress is being made in stopping the abuse of cocaine, which has not yet assumed alarming dimensions in this Province. Sellers of the drug are now required to take out licenses, and the illicit trade has been discouraged by detection and prosecution.

40. Salt Revenue.

170. The gross revenue of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for 1907-08 was 112·44 lakhs or 33·1 lakhs less than in 1906-07. This was due to the reduction with effect from the 20th March 1907 in the rate of duty from Re. 1-8-0 to Re. 1 a maund. The sales of duty paid salt exceeded the sales in 1906-07 by 405,972 maunds. There can be no doubt that the consumers generally receive most of the benefit of every reduction made in the duty, shortly after it has been ordered. Thus at Lahore the retail price per British maund in 1906-07 was Rs. 2-2-10 and in 1907-08 was Re. 1-12-1, and similar reductions were recorded at other stations in the Punjab.

171. The sales during the year in the cis-Indus and Kálábágh Mines Division amounted to 3,079,147 maunds or 471,894 maunds in excess of 1906-07. Sales from the Mandi Mines also show an increase and those from the Sultánpur Salt Works in Gurgaon, though below those of last year, are still well above those of 1902-03.

41. Stamp Revenue.

172. The triennial report for the years 1905-06 to 1907-08 has this year been submitted. During this period, as compared with that preceding it, the sale of court-fee stamps has remained almost stationary after allowance has been made for certain legislation which temporarily reduced the institution of certain suits. On the other hand, the sale of non-judicial stamps has continued to increase annually showing increased commercial activity among the people, for under this category are included bills of exchange, foreign bills, etc. The monopoly which treasurers previously had in the sale of court-fee stamps has now been completely broken down. Increased attention is being paid to the taking of thumb impressions by vendors in their sale registers. These impressions are regarded as a check upon fraud; as all the stamp vend rules are at present under revision, it is probable that further measures will be taken to secure the record of accurate impressions; for the present those taken are, for the most part, valueless.

42. Assessed taxes.

173. A triennial report on the Income Tax Administration of the Punjab for the years 1905—08 has been made. The character of the triennium may be summed up as follows :—Two lean years and two with a heavy mortality from plague, but nevertheless a steady expansion on comparison with the preceding triennium in total realizations and a slightly rising incidence of taxation per assessee, unaccompanied by any marked increase in the number of objections made and penalties levied or in the amount of uncollected balances.

174. The general increase in the proceeds of the tax may be taken as a sign of increasing prosperity; a marked feature of it has been the great increase in the assessment of companies, the sum paid by them having in the last six years risen from Rs. 50,500 to Rs. 79,000. It is to be hoped that the dangers of company promoting may be avoided. Notwithstandig the increase, the collection of the tax probably still falls somewhat short of what might fairly be expected. The present total assessments amount to 13½ lakhs as against 13·25 lakhs in the previous year and 12·31 lakhs in 1905-06.

175. Expenditure on assessment and collection amounted to less than one per cent. on the collections, but no special assessing officers were entertained, and so an indefinite portion of the salaries of Deputy Commissioners and other assessing officers should really be added to this percentage.

A new Income Tax Manual is under preparation.

43. Forest Revenue.

[Forest revenue and expenditure have already been noticed in Chapter IV.]

44. Provincial Revenues.

176. The income and expenditure under the provincial section of accounts during the past year have been as follows :—

Year.	Opening balance.	Income.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1905-06	79,94,387	2,73,08,306	3,01,04,358	51,98,335
1906-07	*60,67,740	3,11,94,277	3,18,55,491	54,06,526
1907-08	54,07,000	2,98,88,000	3,10,61,000	42,34,000

* The opening balance for 1906-07 differs from the closing balance on 31st March 1906 on account of the transfer of Rs. 8,69,405, the balance of the Patwari Fund, from Local to Provincial.

177. The figures for 1907-08 are not final, but are liable to correction in next year's Administration Report. The closing balance of the year 1907-08 included 14¾ lakhs out of the 20 lakhs contributed from Imperial Revenues for the extension and improvement of Simla. The noticeable features in the accounts of the year 1907-08 are (1) the establishment of an insurance fund to finance relief measures when famine is declared, the assets of which are Rs. 1,40,000 annually countributed by the Government of India; (2) the transfer of the Cantonment Magistrate's Department from the Civil to Military Department and the surrender by Provincial of Rs. 1,44,000 on the same account; (3) the imperial grants towards the scheme for the improvement of the pay and prospects of teachers in European Aided Schools, the establishment of a Training School at Sanáwar for male teachers and the revision of the instructional staff of the Aitchison (Chiefs') College, Lahore; (4) the waiving of recoveries from local bodies of the costs of local audit, for which a compensatory assignment has been made by Imperial to Provincial; and (5) the reduction of the rate of interest chargeable on capital expenditure incurred in England on Major Irrigation Works.

178. The revenue classed as Provincial consists of a share of the receipts of the general revenues, the principal heads of which, with the exception of Provincial rates, have been discussed above. Provincial rates on land include the local rate levied under the District Boards Act, 1883, which is noticed in the following section. The portion of the local rate, known as the famine cess, credited to Provincial revenues, was abolished with effect from April 1906, and was made good from Imperial. Under the current Provincial Settlement Provincial revenues receive three-eighths of the income from Imperial canals, subject to a guaranteed net income of 30¾ lakhs per annum.

45. Local Funds.

Balances.

179. The closing balance on the 31st March 1908 was Rs. 22,63,000 (deposits Rs. 37,000 and cash balance Rs. 22,26,000) against Rs. 23,66,000 in the previous year. The decrease is mainly due to the fuller utilization on neglected public works of the special annual assignment of 6½ lakhs made by the Government of India since 1905-06. The system of limiting expenditure on plague incurred in a local area to the financial ability of each local body which has been in force since 1903-04 has proved beneficial. The arrangement sanctioned in Punjab Government letter No. 1419 S. (Financial), dated 18th July 1908, of permitting an overdraft by a district board when its collections of local rate are diminished by continued drought or other cause is also calculated to steady the resources of these bodies.

Audit.

180. The issue of an Account Code for district boards still hangs fire. Meanwhile the peripatetic audit system works smoothly.

Income and expenditure.

181. Excluding debt head transactions, the total income for the year amounted to 45·59 lakhs agaist 42·4 lakhs, and the expenditure to 47·75 lakhs against 38·9 lakhs in the previous year. The increase in income is under the head 'Contributions from Provincial to Local' and is due to the adjustment of a large assignment made by the Government of India. The increase in expenditure on Education of Rs. 1,82,000 shows the general attention which is being devoted to the fostering of primary education in rural areas. Expenditure on local fairs and public gardens has also increased and has given rise to a corresponding increase in income. A large increase of 6½ lakhs in expenditure on civil works was due to the disbursement of accumulations of the annual assignment of 6½ lakhs made by the Government of India. This expenditure was very largely in the Department of Public Works.

46. Municipal Funds.

Balances.

182. The balance of all the municipalities at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 17,36,000 in cash and Rs. 1,90,000 in investments. The balances of a few municipalities fell below the prescribed minimum of 10 per cent. of the receipts for the year, owing partly to heavy refunds of octroi collection and partly to larger expenditure on plague.

Income.

183. The income from octroi was 3·32 lakhs more than last year; this is due to a rise in values, to the revision of schedules and to the more efficient system of collection consequent on the adoption of the Municipal Account Code. The subject of octroi has been more fully treated in section 25 above. The income under "Grants and contributions for general and special purposes" diminished from 4·36 lakhs to 2·30 lakhs on account of certain special grants having been made last year.

Expenditure.

184. With effect from the year under review the fees for local audit have been remitted by the Government of India. Expenditure on "Public health and convenience" rose by 1·24 lakhs, and this is due in the main to progress made on the Ludhiána water-works, to increased attention to sanitation in large towns, and to expenditure on rat destruction, which last may have contributed to the comparative immunity from plague throughout the year. As in the case of 'Local Funds' there has also been a large increase of 1·45 lakhs in expenditure on public instruction. The financial position of each indebted municipality was satisfactory, the closing balances on 31st March 1908 having been above the minimum prescribed by Government.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier, 1901, by H. A. Rose, I.C.S.

Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Proceedings of the Sanitary Board and the Report on Sanitary Works for the year 1907.

Triennial Report on the working of the Charitable Dispensaries in the Punjab for the years 1905—1907.

Report on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1907-08.

Statistics of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the year 1907.

Report of the Chemical Examiner to Government, Punjab, for the year 1907.

Statistics of British India—

Part V.—Public Health (First Issue).

Statistics of British India—

Part IX.—Miscellaneous (Area, Population, Registration, Emigration, &c.) (First Issue.)]

47. Details of Census.

(See pages 153—60 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.)

48. Births and Deaths.

Birth-rate.

185. The slight decline in the birth-rate noted in last year's Administration Report has been accentuated, the rate for 1907 being 40·8 *per mille* as compared with 43·7 in 1906. Malarial fever in the autumn of 1906 is assigned as one of the causes of this. The rate, however, is considerably higher than that in the majority of other provinces.

Death-rate.

186. The death-rate (62·1 *per mille*) exceeded the birth-rate by no less than 21·3 *per mille*. The great increase in mortality was due entirely to plague. What effect the epidemic has had on the total death-rate in the province during the last 11 years can best be illustrated by the table below :—

Year.	Death-rate *per mille*, inclusive of plague.	Death-rate *per mille*, exclusive of plague.	Plague deaths *per mille*.
1897	31·05	30·97	·075
1898	31·05	30·95	·096
1899	29·57	29·55	·011
1900	*47·7	47·67	·024
1901	36·1	35·36	·735
1902	44·1	35·69	8·41
1903	49·0	38·8	10·2
1904	49·06	29·36	19·7
1905	47·55	30·90	16·6
1906	36·94	32·38	4·56
1907	62·1	31·8	30·3

* The figure is 43·9 if calculated on the population as shown in the Census of 1901.

It is clear that apart from plague the registered death-rate was normal, and though in a bad plague year the reporting service is so disorganized that accurrate returns cannot be expected, there is nothing in the character of the year generally to cast serious doubt on the figures.

187. The attitude of the people towards plague continues much the same; while enduring it with fortitude they have not shown any willingness to avail themselves of inoculation or to practice evacuation on any considerable scale.

188. As regards action by Government the chief steps taken have been to increase largely the number of the non-official plague workers and to make liberal provision for rewarding them; to provide all plague officers with equipment for general medical practice, in order that they may find it easier to win the sympathy of the people; and to provide grants on a liberal scale in order that district officers may be able to provide the means of evacuation where required, engage guards on abandoned houses, and reward freely villages which adopt precautionary measures. Rat killing is pursued vigorously, but no attempt is now made to carry out ratting operations over large areas. Towns and villages which are believed to be dangerous receive the first attention, and special measures are taken in healthy villages adjacent to infected areas in order to prevent the spread of infection.

189. Owing to the ravages of plague the death-rate in the Punjab was 18·6 *per mille* higher than that in any other province in India.

49 Emigration and Immigration.

[There is nothing to report under this heading.]

50. Medical Relief.

New dispensaries.

190. The total number of hospitals and dispensaries is now 425 as compared with 414 last year and 371 at the end of the last triennium.

Patients.

191. During the triennium under report the average number of indoor and out-door patients has increased, but not to a remarkable degree. As regards individual dispensaries, the attendance depends on local conditions, such as density of population, salubrity of locality and chiefly, perhaps, on the popularity of the officer in charge. Something has been done towards providing a separate department for women and children and in a small proportion of places female hospital assistants or trained nurses have been provided. It is noticeable that women often consult a male doctor even where a female one is accessible.

192. The private aided dispensaries afford an increasing amount of relief to the people in a form which appears to be acceptable. The number of patients treated in them has risen from 135,155 in 1905 to 237,954 in 1907.

Leper Asylums.

193. The population of the leper asylums is much the same as in 1905. It is understood that at certain seasons the lepers move about the country a good deal in quest of charity, the existing law not authorizing their detention against their will.

Study.

194. A scheme has been approved by Government under which hospital assistants in charge of outlying dispensaries are being deputed to headquarters hospitals for a period of two months, to refresh their medical knowledge, provision has been made for the supply of sound medical literature to hospital assistants and the provincial medical library, established in 1906, contains an excellent collection of books of recognised merit which can be

obtained on loan by civil surgeons and assistant surgeons. Facilities are also provided for the medical education of women, but it is unlikely that much progress will be made until the women of the middle classes attain a freer social status.

195. Thirteen hundred and eight patients underwent anti-rabic treatment at the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, during the year of the Institue ending 8th August 1907. Of the total number, 452 were Europeans and 856 natives. There were nine failures among native patients and one among European patients. Pasteur Institute.

196. The question of improving the pay of the subordinate staff has been under consideration for some time. Hitherto the rate of pay has been undoubtedly low, in view of the distasteful nature of the duties performed, and the necessity for securing as attendants men of good character, capable of taking an intelligent interest in their work. The Local Government has now sanctioned a considerable increase in the permanent establishment, with increased rates of pay; and it is hoped that the difficulty hitherto felt by the Superintendent in securing suitable men as attendants will disappear. Lunatic Asylum.

197. The only remarkable feature of the year's administration was an outbreak of cholera in November and from which twenty-six deaths occurred. The cause was probably the drinking of water from contaminated sources by inmates of the asylum who were incapable of discrimination. Steps are being taken to make this impossible in future.

198. There has been a decrease in the numbers of cases and articles submitted for analysis during the year. The former have fallen from 1,395 to 1,334 and the latter from 3,989 to 3,668. The ratio of detection has been satisfactory, amounting to 70·7 in human poisoning cases, 80·5 in cattle poisoning cases, 88·2 in 'blood' cases. As in previous years, arsenic and opium are the agents most frequently used in human poisoning, while arsenic also accounts for the greater proportion of cases of cattle poisoning. Chemical Examiner.

51. Sanitation.

199. The system of rewards for sanitary improvements in villages continues to be of little use in stimulating improvement, but in the Chenab Colony the system of grants-in-aid has made considerable progress. The number of villages which were awarded such grants (Rs. 1,000 each) was twenty, and in every case khillats and sanads were granted to the lambardars.

200. The public spirit displayed by well-to-do natives of the province, in constructing works of public utility during the year 1906-07, was most commendable, and a sum of Rs. 2,76,300 was spent in this way principally on resting places, tanks and wells.

201. Out of the grant of Rs. 30,000 sanctioned by Government for sanitary works in 1907-08, a sum of Rs. 10,800 was allotted to various municipalities.

202. There has been little improvement in the maintenance of completed drainage works, and a considerable amount of re-organisation of the scavenging and flushing establishments of municipalities appears to be necessary for the satisfactory working of the open system of drainage which has been generally adopted in the Punjab.

52. Vaccination.

203. The number of primary vaccinations again shows a decrease explainable by the prevalence of plague and by the low birth-rate, but there

has been an increase in the number of re-vaccinations. In vaccination, as in other matters, the women of the country are conservative and in many places still regard a visit to Mata Devi as more efficacious.

204. The most important event in the history of the triennium 1905-1908 has been the transfer of the control of the vaccinating staff from the Sanitary Commissioner to the local bodies by which the staff is paid. The transfer is not yet complete; when it is complete, the Sanitary Commissioner will remain as an advising and inspecting officer. There is reason to hope that this important step will not only eventually mean a real increase of local self-government, but may also be a measure to popularize vaccination.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

[For detailed information see the Annual Report on Public Instruction in the Punjab for 1907-08 and Statistics of British India—Part VII—Educational, First Issue, and Part IX—Miscellaneous—First Issue (pages 77-79).]

53. General system of Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 616-35 of the report of 1901-02.)

Public instruction.

54. Education.

205. Expenditure on education has increased by almost 4½ lakhs of rupees, 56½ lakhs being the gross total for the year under report. "Direct" expenditure, *i.e.*, on tuition, shows an increase of Rs. 2,84,954 in the case of public institutions. This is about the normal rate of expansion. Primary schools account for Rs. 1,13,484 of the increase, and High schools for boys Rs. 1,10,264. "Indirect" expenditure, which comprises charges for direction, inspection, building, furniture, scholarships, etc., increased by Rs. 1,54,282, of which more than half was on buildings. General statistics.

206. The number of public institutions in existence during 1907-08 was 4,313, with 244,271 pupils, and the number of private institutions was 3,313, with 58,592 pupils. In the former 2,331 attended Arts or Professional Colleges, 70,553 attended Secondary and 167,905 Primary schools. Training and special schools accounted for 3,482 students. Of the private institutions, the advanced schools were attended by 4,215 pupils and the elementary by 54,377. The figures now show that 23·22 of all towns and villages are provided with schools, and that 10·62 per cent. of the male population and 2·56 of the female population of the school-going age are receiving instruction.

207. The increase in the number of public institutions and scholars is almost entirely due to the opening of Primary schools for both sexes, 239 new ones being added this year. The outstanding feature of past years has been the great rise in the number of Primary schools, but owing to the circumstances of the year, progress in this direction has recently been less rapid.

208. The year has been one of steady, but not sensational, development. Among the salient features may be noted the growing desire for scientific and technical education; the improvement in the staff and equipment of colleges, partly due to the pressure now exercised by the University; the increasing preference of Anglo-Vernacular to Vernacular Secondary education; the opening of 192 new Primary schools for boys and 44 for girls; and the wider introduction of the new rural school curriculum. The pressing educational needs include new buildings for many of the Government High schools, boarding-houses for Secondary schools generally, and qualified teachers for Primary schools. General progress.

209. The number of schools rose from 3,151 to 3,343, of which 2,476 were Government and Board schools. The increase was virtually confined to the latter class of schools, a rise in aided schools being balanced by a fall in unaided. The rate of progress in opening new Board schools has not been equal to that of preceding years; but in view of the cost of maintaining the new schools opened with the aid of the grant from Imperial funds, a slackening of speed was inevitable. Primary education.

210. The number of pupils rose from 141,559 to 146,290, the increase being, as might be expected, in the Lower Primary stage. This increase has been almost entirely confined to the Delhi, Multan and Amritsar Circles; in Rawalpindi the number fell off by 2,580, which is attributed to the prevalence of plague. A satisfactory feature is the rise in the number of agriculturists' sons attending school, which is common to all the Circles.

211. The institution of rural schools has caused the disappearance of the Zamindari schools, which have proved a failure. The rural school is intended to be a compromise between the Zamindari and the Primary schools, the chief feature being the omission of Persian and the inclusion of the native system of accounts in the new course of study. This type of school is growing in favour and will probably be adopted shortly in all village schools. The growth of Indigenous schools is satisfactory: the number examined for grants shows an increase, but the attendance has fallen off, owing to plague and scarcity. Gurmukhi schools do not show any appreciable increase. The record for the year is, generally speaking, one of progress. The chief hindrances to the spread of Primary education are the want of funds, the scarcity of teachers, and the lethargy of the people.

Secondary education.

212. While the quality of the instruction is thought to be gradually improving, the development of Secondary education is not keeping pace with the extension of Primary schools, and there is a resulting want of teachers for the latter. The provincialization of the High schools at the head-quarters of districts has had a tonic effect on these institutions, and has rendered the teaching profession somewhat more popular. There has virtually been no change in the number of Secondary schools. The number of pupils in the Secondary stage of Anglo-Vernacular schools increased by 1,101, to which aided as well as Government and Board schools contributed. Vernacular schools show a satisfactory increase of 424, as compared with a decrease in the previous year. The number of pupils learning English in the Primary and Secondary departments of schools was 32,310, showing an increase of 1,232, which is significant of the popularity of this form of education. The demand for English shows no sign of abatement. The material proof of this is that the people are willing to pay for instruction in English: the fee-income in Anglo-Vernacular schools usually covers half the expenditure, which cannot be said of any other form of education; and Secondary schools started by private enterprise are invariably Anglo-Vernacular. Vernacular High schools, excluding the school attached to the Oriental College, are non-existent, and the only Vernacular Middle schools are those maintained by the District Boards. The objection to Anglo-Vernacular Middle schools, from an educational point of view, is that ill-taught English dominates the whole of the curriculum, the result being that the boys learn nothing thoroughly. In Vernacular schools the subjects of study receive their full share of time, and are not corrupted by the use of a foreign medium. An additional drawback is the expensiveness of an English school, where the fees are at least four times as high as those levied in Vernacular classes.

213. Most of the Government High schools as well as the Board Secondary schools are overcrowded and have long ceased to be sufficient to accommodate the increasing numbers. Much has been done in the way of equipping Government schools with furniture and apparatus, but Board schools are more or less defective in this respect.

The Punjab University.

214. The twenty-seventh Convocation of the University was held on the 21st December 1907, when the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on Sir Lewis Tupper, formerly Vice-Chancellor. The number of those admitted to the various degrees was 149, as compared with 163 in the previous year. The expenditure was Rs. 1,87,119, of which fees contributed Rs. 1,26,022, as compared with Rs. 1,21,775 previously. The closing balance was Rs. 1,18,897. All the affiliated colleges were, as before, visited and report-

ed on by an inspecting committee representing the University, and the affiliation of certain institutions in higher courses of study was decided on. Warnings were issued to two temporarily affiliated institutions. In January and February a course of lectures on Political Economy was delivered by Lala Manohar Lal, M.A., Principal of the Randhir College, Kapurthala, under the auspices of the University. The results of the various Arts examinations conducted by the University show a general improvement.

Arts Colleges.

215. The number of Arts Colleges is the same as that for 1907, *viz.*, 9 Arts (English) Colleges and 1 Oriental College with an attendance of 1,725 students. The number of candidates appearing in the several examinations was 1,242, with 547 passes, as compared with 1,023 candidates and 409 passes in 1906-07. The percentage of passes in the Intermediate, B. A. and M. A. Examinations were 45, 36·65 and 50, respectively, and in the Science Faculty in the Intermediate, B. Sc. and Master of Sc. Examinations they were 45, 27·77 and 75, respectively.

216. The expenditure during 1907-08 was Rs. 2,21,046 against Rs. 2,56,429 in 1906-07. To the total expenditure Provincial Revenues contributed Rs. 1,08,097, District and Municipal Funds Rs. 2,235, Fees Rs. 65,641, Subscriptions Rs. 858, and Endowments and other sources Rs. 44,215.

217. All the colleges are making noticeable progress. The closer supervision now exercised by the University through its inspecting committee has had a stimulating effect, and the college authorities, with the aid of the grant from Imperial funds which the University has been empowered to distribute, are endeavouring to fulfil the new conditions of efficiency.

Training Colleges.

218. The number of training institutions remained unchanged. The Central Training College and the Model School, Lahore, both show a satisfactory increase in the number of stipendiaries and students. The teaching staff in both is complete in all respects. The number of students in the Normal Schools has fallen off slightly. The supply of trained teachers was, as usual, unequal to the demand. The training classes for Europeans at Simla and Sanawar are progressing satisfactorily.

Special schools.

219. Special education is imparted in the institutions which prepare for the legal, medical and veterinary callings; in the engineering classes and the Mayo School of Art; in various schools which combine industrial with general teaching; and in the clerical and commercial classes which train for clerkships. In the Medical College and School, Lahore, and the Medical School for Women at Ludhiána the number on the rolls and the results in the various examinations are higher this year. The Veterinary College, the Government School of Engineering, and the Mayo School of Art, Lahore, are all making satisfactory progress. Admissions into the Engineering School had to be restricted: successful candidates found no difficulty in securing employment. The number of industrial and technical schools in the province has largely increased and they are reported to be doing good work, although the results in some are incommensurate with the expenditure.

Female education.

220. The number of schools has increased from 561 to 607 or over 8 per cent., and scholars from 21,769 to 23,588. The expenditure on the schools (European and Native) rose from Rs. 3,15,481 to Rs. 3,78,086.

221. There are many signs of progress. An increasing number of Christian girls are endeavouring to go beyond the Anglo-Vernacular High Standard, either joining the Forman Christian College, or the Women's College in Lucknow, or the Central Training College, and two have gone to England or

America from the Punjab to complete their education. The strongest and most important movement at present is that of the educated Hindu and Muhammadan classes, more especially those who have been in England, for the higher education of their daughters. It is to be hoped that the opening of the Victoria May Anglo-Vernacular School, which has been under discussion for two years, may provide for the educated classes of all religions an Anglo-Vernacular education of the best kind. Primary education in Gurmukhi makes progress; new schools are opened, and the existing schools increase in numbers. In most of the large towns a very considerable proportion of Hindu little girls are learning to read and write their mother-tongue. Muhammadan education has greater difficulties to contend with, since Urdu, which is taught in Muhammadan schools, is neither the mother-tongue nor the language of the religious books. The two great inducements which favour the learning of Gurmukhi are therefore wanting in Urdu schools, and these are usually thinly attended. A series of Gurmukhi Readers for girls' schools is in course of publication, which will supply the deficiency of moral and domestic instruction in the existing Readers. The Inspectors agree that popular prejudice against female education is lessening, and that the dearth of qualified teachers is now the chief obstacle to development. It is noted, however, that most of the Board schools are housed in rented buildings which are ill-ventilated and otherwise unsuitable, and that there is no provision for physical exercise.

European education.

222. The number of schools has decreased slightly. The expenditure on these schools, especially from Provincial Revenues, has risen considerably during the past few years, and the Government of India grant of Rs. 27,000, supplemented by special maintenance grants from Provincial Funds, and large sums spent on buildings, have together failed to suffice for the needs. It has been represented that the only solution of the problem, if there is not to be an increasing and indefinite drain of public money, lies in restricting the number of aided schools by amalgamation wherever this is possible. Such amalgamation has already been proposed in the case of the Lahore schools. The institution of the training classes at Simla and Sanawar is expected to be of great help in staffing the schools, and the Inspector thinks that the higher qualifications of the teachers already available have raised the standard of education.

Muhammadans.

223. The advance made by the Muhammadan community in education continues to be steady. The efforts of Government are being appreciated and private societies are doing much to promote education in the way of founding schools and scholarships. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of Muhammadan girls attending schools.

Education in Native States.

224. There are now five Arts colleges and 935 schools of various types in Native States. Of the schools, 301 are Primary and 576 are Indigenous (45 of which are advanced schools, teaching Arabic, Persian and Sanskrit). The number of scholars in attendance was 29,051, of whom 8,474 were at Indigenous schools. Compared with the preceding year, there was an increase of 1. Arts college, one Anglo-Vernacular Secondary school, thirty-three Primary schools, and the same number of Elementary Indigenous schools. There was an increase of 36 students in colleges, 704 in Secondary schools, 1,128 in Primary schools and 1,341 in Indigenous schools.

225. Education is still backward in these States as compared with British territory, but some progress is being made. Several of the Secondary schools in Kapurthala, Nabha and other States were visited by the Circle Inspectors, whose reports point to the want of trained teachers and intelligent teaching as being the principal defect. This want is not likely to be remedied until the States take to sending their teachers to the provincial training insti-

tutions. The Inspector of the Lahore Circle reports that there is a general and growing desire for education in the Simla Hill States, which are gradually coming under the influence of the Department.

226. There were 288 boarding-houses for boys or college students, with 12,769 inmates, as compared with 278 and 11,969 in the previous year. The majority of the Secondary schools have boarding quarters of some sort attached. Boarding-houses for girls are the same in number (31), but with fewer inmates. The expenditure on boarding-houses of all kinds amounted to Rs. 5,21,611 or about 9 per cent. of the total expenditure on education. This sum includes the Imperial grant of Rs. 52,981 made on account of the Lawrence Military Asylum, Sanáwar. **Boarding-houses.**

55. Literature and the Press.

227. The total number of publications received for registration has again fallen, the number in 1907 being 1,204 as against 1,772 in 1906. Of those registered, 491 were in Urdu, 328 in Punjabi, 129 bi-lingual and 90 in English, while, as to subject, poetry and religion absorb the greater part of the attention of writers. The new spirit is everywhere evident; in religious works it appears either in the reconstruction of doctrines or in the attempt to divest old dogmas and doctrines of that which is superfluous and incidental and to return to original sources; in social and political works it appears in the criticism of existing institutions such as caste and in the interest taken in affairs beyond India. **Literature.**

Thus, on the one hand, there is the "Veda Tattawa Parkash" which seeks to show that the Vedas inculcate devotion to one God only and that the gods and goddesses met with in Hindu scriptures are of later growth and, on the other hand, there is the "Jang-i-Rus wa Japan", a dignified metrical account of the Russian-Japanese war, and a translation of Lord Milner's "Egypt and England."

The Punjab Book Society continues to render services to Urdu literature by issuing translations of useful European works.

228. There were 271 newspapers published during the year. Of these, 47 were published in English, 1 in English and Urdu, 192 in Urdu, 1 in Urdu and Persian, 2 in Urdu and Hindi, 13 in Hindi and 15 in Gurmukhi (Punjabi). Five English and 55 Vernacular newspapers were started and 14 English and 67 Vernacular ceased to exist during the year, leaving a total of 190 on the register. One paper was published quarterly, 121 monthly, 36 twice a month, 2 thrice a month, 99 weekly, 4 twice a week and 1 thrice a week. There were 7 daily papers. **Newspapers.**

56. Literary Societies.

[See report for 1901-02. The subject will not be dealt with again till 1911-12.]

57. Arts and Sciences.

229. The Museum continues to be a popular institution, and though only 276,941 men as against 314,548 visited it during the year, the number of female visitors on the zenana days increased to 4,600. **Lahore Museum.**

230. The department of the Museum devoted to industrial Art productions has been augmented by a very fine collection of embroideries known as Chamba "rumals." In the Archæological department, as a result of Dr. Stein's explorations on the site of ancient Khotan in Chinese Turkistan, 203 articles of wood, terra cotta, glass, metal and cloth and several interesting minute seals have been added to the collection, while owing to the re-organisation of the Delhi Municipal Museum and its transfer to the Fort the whole of the Græco-Buddhist sculptures in that Museum have been removed to Lahore.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

[Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the following publications:—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for 1907-08; Annual Progress Report of the Superintendent of the Archæological Survey, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1908.]

58. Archæology.

231. The attention of the Superintendent has been directed more to the United Provinces than to the Punjab, especially as, owing to famine, extensive excavations were made as a relief work at the ancient site of Sahet-Mahet (Gonda and Bahraich districts).

232. The only special works of preservation undertaken in the Punjab were those on some monuments in Kángra which had been damaged in the earthquake of April 1905. The total expenditure by the Public Works Department was Rs. 30,958, and the principal works completed were the restoration of the red sand-stone panels of the gateway between Jehangir's tomb and Akbari serai at Lahore and the provision of a water-supply for the newly laid out grounds in front of Jehangir's tomb. No epigraphical discoveries have been made during the year in the Punjab except a few in Chamba State, which proves an inexhaustible mine of inscriptions, a book on which is almost ready for the press. A number of articles of antiquarian interest including two Tibetan paintings from Ladákh have been added to the collection in the Lahore Museum.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

[of the report for the year 1901-02. The Bishop also exercises ecclesias- the Persian Gulf.]

60. Ecclesiastical.

The various ecclesiastical institutions were noticed in the report for 1901-02. During the year under report the new Scottish church was completed and a grant-in-aid of Rs. 4,370 was given by the Government of India towards the construction of the new Wesleyan church at the station. A proposal for building a new Anglican church at Dalhousie is under the consideration of Government.

61. Stationery.

234. The Punjab Administration draws its supply of stationery from the Calcutta stores. The value of stationery issued to officers in the Punjab during the year aggregated Rs. 2,40,742 as against Rs. 1,80,910 in the previous year. The details are as follows :—Cost of printing paper Rs. 1,07,118, office stationery Rs. 1,32,475 and padlocks Rs. 1,149 against Rs. 44,512, Rs. 1,35,363 and Rs. 1,251, respectively, last year.

62. Punjab Government Press.

235. The following statement compares the income and expenditure with the value of work turned out during the years 1906-07 and 1907-08 :—

Income.		Expenditure.		Value of work.	
1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
17,339	19,988	1,34,306	1,46,358	1,23,376	1,37,998

The income of the Press during the year under report was Rs. 19,988 as against Rs. 17,339 in the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,46,358 against Rs. 1,34,306 in 1906-07. The cost of work done by the Contractors for Government Printing for departments and offices during 1907-08 was Rs. 74,145 as against Rs. 44,785.

PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT, 1908-1909.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1908-1909.

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[Number of pages fixed as the maximum limit of the Report; Part I, 20—30 pages; Part II, 150 pages.]

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1908-09.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(The "year" throughout this report is not inavriably the financial year ending 31st March 1909. At the heading of each chapter, with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1909, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1908, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1908.

The Administration Report for 1901-02 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.)

Changes in the Administration.

Personnel of the Administration.

1. Sir Thomas Gordon Walker, K.C.I.E., C.S I., held charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor from the 23rd of January 1908 to the 25th of May 1908, on the forenoon of which date he was relieved by Sir Louis William Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., and retired from the service.

Relations with Tributary States.

Political.

2. The most important events of the year were the formal installation of Nawab Ahmad Ali Khan of Máler Kotla, of Raja Bhim Sen of Suket, and of Sardar Ravi Sher Singh of Kalsia; and the marriage of Raja Bhim Sen of Suket to a niece of the Raja of Sirmúr. The administration of the States proceeded smoothly, except in Mandi, where there was friction between the people and the Darbar.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Land revenue.

3. The year 1907-08 was one of scarcity, not actually amounting to famine. The most serious feature of the year was the high level of prices, due in great part to the drain of food-stuffs to the famine-stricken tracts of other provinces. During the year in question practically no rain fell except for a fortnight in July and three weeks in August. The total area matured was only 71 per cent. of the quinquennial average; the only crops which survived the drought were cane and cotton in the autumn and barley in the spring.

It was found necessary to suspend 40¾ lakhs, or practically one-fifth of the fixed demand, while 22¼ lakhs were advanced to cultivators. The outstanding balances of land revenue and advances to cultivators at the end of the year amounted to nearly 98 lakhs.

Land Alienation Act.

4. The Land Alienation Act has now stood the test of a year of severe scarcity; and there is nothing to show that it has caused any undue contraction of credit or has operated to prevent the agriculturist from successfully tiding over the period of temporary distress. The prediction that the limitation of the market for land would prejudicially affect land values has been falsified. Agricultural land probably never fetched such high prices as those now ruling.

With regard to the position of members of agricultural tribes, whom the Act is specially designed to protect, an analysis of the results proves that they have more than held their own in the past year in the matter both of sales and of mortgages, and it is abundantly clear that the Act is producing the effect which it was designed to have in preventing the land from passing from their hands. It is a feature of the history of the Act that since the year after its passing the area redeemed has steadily increased, and now for the fourth year in succession it has exceeded the area mortgaged. Moreover, the peasant is undoubtedly restricting his borrowing and the habits of extravagance which under a system of unlimited credit necessitated recourse to the money lender.

Surveys.

5. Good progress was made with the topographical survey of Dera Gházi Khan and with the traverse of the Bari Doab tract. The demarcation of permanent boundaries along the rivers has conferred a new sense of security on the owners of riverain lands and met with the approbation of the people affected thereby.

Settlements.

6. The land revenue settlement of Miánwáli was brought to a close. Settlement operations were in progress in six other districts, *viz.*, Gurgaon, Karnál, Rohtak, Hissar, Delhi and Gurdáspur.

Land records.

7. There has been a steady improvement in the quality of the land-record work, and the peasant land-owners of the province rightly show great confidence in the entries made, which they find add to the security of their title and the value of their land. The figures for mutations have risen considerably. The maintenance of the record of rights tends to become the principal function of the subordinate revenue staff of the Province.

Colonies.

8. The actual work of colonization in existing colonies has now come to a close as practically all the allottable area has been allotted. The work that now remains is the improvement of communications and of sanitation and the planting of trees. This work proceeds apace. Colony towns have been or are being provided with a good system of sanitation and drainage. The arboricultural work also which has been done by the people under the guidance of the Colonization Officers has been wonderfully successful.

In spite of the adverse character of the season, the absence of plague and the prevalence of good prices have made the past year a fairly prosperous one for all the colonies. Improvement in the distribution of water has also contributed in large measure to this result.

The Chenab colony exhibits great prosperity, comfort and content, from which a feeling of gratitude to Government for the extraordinary benefits its colonization scheme has conferred on these fortunate individuals in the short space of 15 years is not entirely absent. The Jhelum colony appears to be on the high road to prosperity after a series of heavy misfortunes, due chiefly to virulent epidemics of plague; but a bumper wheat crop and high prices have gone far to compensate for the disasters of past years. The continued success of horse-breeding, the special feature of this colony, is remarkable. The Chunián colony benefited by high prices for its crops, and the Jhang colony had a fair year.

PROTECTION.

Police and criminal justice.

9. A spirit of lawlessness marked the earlier part of 1908, chiefly in the Central Punjab. Many were stirred to crime, especially in the towns, by impending famine and the aftermath of political unrest. Excellent autumn rains, however, averted famine, and the ravages of malaria helped to reduce the growing volume of crime. Even so, the increase in all crimes against the person has been remarkable.

The police have come well out of a trying ordeal, upholding their reputation for discipline, courage and ability to maintain law and order.

Prisons.

10. As crime increased, the number of convict admissions and of jail offences rose. Chiefly owing to quinine prophylaxis, the jails were singularly free from malaria, and the health of the jail population on the whole was good.

To encourage industry and good conduct with the hope of substantial reward, a new system is being introduced in which the units of remission are days instead of marks. As regards segregation, judicial lock-ups are now being converted into subsidiary jails, whereby short term prisoners are kept apart from the more serious prisoners.

The number of convictions of juvenile offenders is increasing, and the daily average strength of the Reformatory School, Delhi, rose by over 52 per cent.

Civil justice.

11. The number of institutions of civil suits rose by over 25,000, and despite vigorous efforts by the judiciary to dispose of them, the pending file increased. As creditors knew that debtors could not pay, there were fewer applications for execution of decrees presented than during the previous year.

Among the measures of reform engaging public attention may be mentioned the proposed establishment of *Panchayat* courts for the disposal of petty civil suits.

Registration.

12. There was a very marked increase in the number of documents compulsorily presented for registration, and the persistent decrease in optional registrations has ceased. In both cases the reason is to be sought in the hard times which compelled so many of the peasantry to sell or mortgage their lands.

Local Self-Government.

13. The year was not marked by any startling developments in the working of district boards. It might have been expected that a year immediately preceding the birth of great political changes would have been marked by a quickening of public interest in the working and constitution of all public bodies. But the members of a district board do not rub shoulders sufficiently to enable the elements of personal rivalry or political sympathy to operate very strongly. At the same time the activities of the board as a whole do not touch the individual so closely as those of a municipal committee, whose powers of interference in the more intimate affairs of life are necessarily greater. This fact largely accounts for the want of interest that still shows itself in the matter of elections to district boards. Ordinarily speaking, candidates and voters are equally apathetic. An attempt to rouse the interest of members in their duties is being made by the Local Government, which recently enjoined that an ordinary meeting of each district board and local board should be held as a rule not less than once every two months; and the devolution of matters of detail to sub-committees is being encouraged.

Municipal affairs afford a picture only a little less dark. Except in the larger municipalities, there is seldom any keenness over elections, and a seat filled by appointment is much more coveted than one filled by election. The most serious feature in the history of the public health of towns in the year 1908-09 was the terrible outbreak of malaria that followed on the heavy monsoon of 1908. Several municipalities started a system of free distribution of quinine to combat this outbreak, and they later received grants from provincial revenues to the extent of their actual expenditure. Owing chiefly to this epidemic and to the depression of trade, octroi, the main source of municipal revenue, decreased by 2¼ lakhs. Octroi has been brought prominently into public notice during the past year by the appointment of a committee in the United Provinces to consider the possibility of its abolition or of improving its assessment and collection, in case abolition should appear out of the question. Copies of their report have been circulated with a view to the adoption as far as possible of the improvements in the working of the tax suggested in the report. The larger question of substituting a terminal tax without refunds in place of octroi will be considered later.

Agriculture, Weather and Crops.

Operations of the Department of Agriculture.

14. The Agricultural Department in the Punjab is already beginning to make its influence felt, especially in the canal colonies, which contain the most progressive element in the rural population and in which the only existing agricultural station and seed farm are situated. The question of establishing a second station in the Punjab is still under consideration. So

far the activities of the department have mainly consisted in preparation for the opening of the Lyallpur Agricultural College, in experiments with new and improved varieties of crops, and in the introduction of agricultural machinery.

Owing to the incomplete state of the buildings, the College could not be opened in the year under review; progress was made with the recruiting and training of the staff. From the Lyallpur agricultural station important information has been obtained concerning the milling and baking qualities of Punjab wheats. It appears that the red wheats which are most suited for cultivation in the province are superior from the point of view of both miller and baker to the soft white wheats which have hitherto been in greatest demand for export. The matter is one of great importance to the Punjabi cultivator and to consumers generally.

The Veterinary Department.

15. The year has been marked by an increase in the popularity of the veterinary hospitals throughout the province. Increased attention has at the same time been paid to breeding operations and in particular to the standard and quantity of donkey stallions. This should prove of great service in improving the breeding of mules in the Punjab. In spite of some doubtful results in the Miánwáli district it is satisfactory to notice that preventive inoculation is usually attended with success, and is uniformly appreciated.

Loans to agriculturists.

16. Over 22 lakhs of rupees were advanced by the State to agriculturists for the purchase of seed and cattle and the improvement of their lands in 1907-08. These liberal advances undoubtedly helped the people to come through a time of trial much more successfully than could have been expected. Provincial revenues suffered a loss of over half a lakh on the year's transactions. The outstanding balance of principal alone was nearly 35½ lakhs at the end of the year. The existence of such a heavy debt from the agricultural population to Government cannot be viewed with entire equanimity, and endeavours are being made to realize outstanding balances with promptitude, now that better conditions obtain.

Co-operative credit societies.

17. The co-operative credit movement has been marked during 1908-09 by recovery and consolidation after the trials of a period of scarcity. There has at the same time been considerable expansion; the necessary capital for village banks is being obtained from district banks, able to attract capital at head-quarters, and from unions instituted on the Bengal model.

Prices.

18. The harvest price of wheat was 63 per cent. above normal. A shortage of wheat in the principal wheat-growing countries, and the desire of local merchants to replenish their stocks after the severe drain to other Provinces, contributed to maintain prices at a high level.

Quinquennial cattle census.

19. The periodical quinquennial cattle census was carried out in February 1909. All classes of animals, except goats, have increased. Except under the head of bullocks and cows the province is in a better position than ever before; and as regards bullocks and cows it is certain that the figures before 1894 included many old and inferior cattle, such as it would not pay now-a-days to feed.

Weather and crops.

20. The monsoon rains of 1908 were the heaviest known for the past 30 years. Some damage was caused by excessive rain, but the area sown and the autumn crops reaped were in excess of normal. An unusually dry winter and spring followed, but the soil moisture was sufficient to ensure an excellent spring harvest.

FORESTS.

Management.

21. Forty-seven square miles of the Pir Mahal Forest have been notified as reserved. In Lahore 4 forests are still under settlement. The provisions of working plans have generally been carried out. Working plans are required for 4,640 square miles, for the greater part of which no steps can be taken until it is decided what areas are required by the Canal Colonies.

The total number of forest offences committed showed a rise; the majority of the cases are compounded under the Act, but the percentage of convictions in cases taken to court was more than maintained. There were about half as many fires, and half as many acres burnt, as in the previous year.

Exploitation.

22. The total quantity of timber removed by departmental agency is now very small. The existing system is to sell trees as they stand. The rates for timber are well maintained, and the price of firewood is rising in most Divisions.

MANUFACTURES.

23. The total number of factories in the Punjab is now 264, the majority of which are cotton ginning factories. Inspections were more frequent, and greater activity than heretofore has been shown in the prosecution of offences. The sanitary conditions and arrangements for fencing were generally satisfactory. There is no doubt in many factories a systematic disregard of the rules concerning the employment of women and children, but the results are not serious.

An instructive monograph on the Wire and Tinsel Industries in the Punjab has been published.

TRADE.

Total Imports and Exports.

24. The total value of the trade of the province during the year was £26,790,000; the imports actually exceeded the exports by £5,726,000. There is a shrinkage in both exports and imports: the falling-off in the grain traffic was so great that the value of exports is lower than it has been since 1903-04.

Trans-Frontier trade.

25. In the trade with Chinese Tibet, the value of imports increased 28 per cent.; the exports are almost negligible. In the trade with Ladakh there has been a decrease of 1½ lakhs of rupees in imports, and the export figures are the lowest known for many years. The only satisfactory item is an increase in European piece-goods.

The trade with Southern and Western Afghánistán is insignificant.

Joint Stock Companies.

26. A 'boom' in Company promoting has set in which will sensibly affect in one way or another the prosperity of the Province. The paid up capital of Companies has more than doubled in eight years.

Public Works

27. Retrenchment under each head of Public Works was found necessary. The expenditure on Provincial Civil Works dropped from 19⅓ to 15¾ lakhs apart from expenditure on repairs. The outlay during the year was spread over all departments—Civil, Judicial, Education, Jails, Police, Medical and Agriculture. The progress made in the construction of feeder roads and in work connected with the sanitary improvement of towns in the province has been marked.

Railways.

28. How greatly the paralysis in trade has affected the Railways in India is well illustrated by the history of the North-Western Railway during the year 1908. Though it usually earns in gross receipts an average of between six and seven hundred lakhs of rupees, its total receipts during the year 1908 were estimated at not more than 550 lakhs. The backbone of its traffic is the wheat export trade from Karachi, and the great diminution in this in 1908 caused a loss on this item alone of over a hundred lakhs of rupees.

The average rate charged to passengers of all classes was just over $\frac{1}{5}$th of a penny and the average distance travelled was about 38 miles; there have been no material fluctuations in these figures since 1884.

Irrigation.

29. All the perennial canals, with the exception of the Western Jumna and the Sirhind, show an increase in the irrigated areas, compared with the average of the previous three years. All inundation canals except the Ghaggar, where the river failed in September, and the Indus, where floods caused great damage, were equally fortunate owing to the excessive monsoon.

The total area irrigated by all the Punjab Canals,—Imperial, Provincial and Native States,—amounted to 6,749,607 acres, or almost double that of Egypt.

The gross commanded area is 18½ million acres, of which 15½ million acres are culturable. The year's operations emphasise the importance of canal irrigation in securing stable results to the zamindar under diverse climatic conditions, so that famines are rendered impossible and the farmer steadily reaps the advantage of the high prices now ruling on all produce.

Revenue and Expenditure.

30. The revenue raised in the province was 22·78 lakhs more than in the previous financial year. The figures are given in detail in section 36. The rise in profits under *Irrigation* are due to the increase of 12 per cent. in the irrigated area. Under *Stamps* the increase is mainly due to increased litigation. Under the head of *Excise* the increase is due not to

increased consumption but to competition at auctions for vend license fees. The increase under *Civil Works* is due to the inclusion this year of contributions from Local Funds formerly not shewn under Revenue. In expenditure the increase under the head *Police* is due to the reorganisation scheme and to the grant of grain compensation. The increase under *Education* is mainly due to the inclusion of provincial contributions to Local Funds, formerly not entered as expenditure; and that under *Scientific and other Minor Departments* to the development of agricultural schemes. The fall under *Forest* is due to the inclusion in 1907-08 of a large payment made to Chamba. Omitting this the expenditure of the year was almost the same as in the previous year.

Vital Statistics.

Births and deaths.

31. The salient features of the year were a marked decrease in plague and a severe outbreak of malarial fever in the autumn. Scarcity conditions continued to prevail, thus aggravating the mortality from malaria, and it is estimated that during the last four months of 1908 almost one-quarter of the population suffered from malaria. The birth rate showed some improvement in 1907, being 41·8 per mille as against 40·8 per mille in the previous year. The increase may be partly ascribed to the freedom from malarial conditions in the previous autumn. The death rate, 50·73, was higher than in any year in the previous decade with the exception of 1907, when owing to grievous mortality from plague it attained the high figure of 62·1 per mille. It exceeded the birth-rate by 8·93 which is an improvement on the previous year, when the excess was as much as 21·3 per mille.

Medical Relief.

32. The severe outbreak of malaria which marked the closing months of the year left its trace on the number of patients of all classes, which rose by 21 per cent. to 4½ millions in 1908. All possible agencies, including vaccinators, the plague staff and itinerating dispensaries, were brought into action to mitigate the severity of the outbreak.

The number of hospitals and dispensaries has increased from 425 to 438, and local bodies show increasing liberality towards hospitals. It is unsatisfactory, however, to observe that, while contributions by Europeans rose from Rs. 38,045 to Rs. 88,498, subscriptions by Indians fell from Rs. 24,316 to Rs. 24,195 in 1908, *i.e.*, about 2 pies per head of Indian population, and that too in a province where over 14 lakhs of rupees are annually paid in income tax. No great increase is likely to take place in subscriptions till public opinion takes up a more reasonable attitude towards the claims to gratuitous relief of persons of means. It is entirely contradictory to the root idea of a charitable hospital or dispensary that people who can afford to pay should receive medical relief and medicine there gratis. The fact that the practice has sprung up in the Punjab and is not discouraged by local authorities is a serious difficulty in the way not only of improving the medical institutions, but also of setting free local funds which are urgently required for sanitation, communications and education. If the well-to-do compounded for their improper receipt of gratuitous medical relief by liberally subscribing to the institutions, there might be something to be said in favour of allowing the present state of things to continue.

But when the amount subscribed in the whole province by Indians amounted to Rs. 24,195 only, it is impossible to allow the misappropriation of public monies involved in the present neglect of the rules to continue. An additional advantage will be that there will then be scope for private practitioners in the province, and a paying and useful career will be opened out for the educated youths of the Punjab, while the charitable institutions will be enabled to extend their operations amongst the poorer classes for which they are intended.

SANITATION.

33. It is difficult to get the villagers to follow, or even to appreciate, the most elementary sanitary principles. Rewards for improved village sanitation continue to be granted by District Boards, but these elicit very little interest on the part of village communities.

In the Chenab Canal Colony, however, where rewards for good sanitation are made available for the construction of religious buildings, village guest-houses and schools, increasing interest is shown. Many of the villages in this colony have a well with a raised masonry coping, clean protected tanks, and regular places for storing manure outside the village.

In municipalities the value of sanitary measures is gradually being inculcated. A sum of one lakh was placed at the disposal of the Sanitary Board out of the sanitary grant given by the Government of India, for distribution to municipalities as grants-in-aid for sanitary works during 1908-09, inclusive of Rs. 30,000, the usual grant. From this sum allotments were made to the municipalities of Multán, Lahore, Kasúr and Muzaffargarh for drainage schemes.

EDUCATION.

34. The growing charges upon the public funds entailed by the educational movement are very considerable. The demands of the Education Department increase much faster than the revenues available to meet them. As these in the case of provincial and district board receipts are to a great extent fixed and stationary, the Imperial Government has had to come to the aid of provincial funds with special grants, and district boards have not been backward in responding to the requirements of the situation. As the Education Department must share in the vicissitudes of the province there has been in the year under report a set-back in expenditure from public sources, but taking a period of six years, it is found that the expenditure by the Local Government and local bodies has increased 72 per cent. During the same period the expenditure from fees has increased only 25 per cent., and only 21 per cent. of the cost of education is now met from this source as compared with 27 per cent. six years ago. Between 6 and 7 annas per month is the average fee paid by a student in the Punjab for his education. The actual fees vary from the not inconsiderable rates paid by University students to the village primary school charges, which for agriculturists are remitted entirely.

The number of pupils in primary schools has increased by 4,309 and in secondary schools by 4,936. The latter increase is proportionately much larger, and amounts to 7 per cent. on the previous year's figures. The progress of higher education is unchecked. The number of students in Arts Colleges has increased by 41 per cent. since 1902-03. The increase in the year under report was 7 per cent.

What is now required is to stimulate in rural tracts private enterprise in the promotion of primary education; and of education as a whole it may be said that the pressing need of the time is, not for cheaper schools, but for more and better schools.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1. Physical Features of the Country, Area and Climate.

(See pages 1—12 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

2. Historical Summary.

(See pages 12—32 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

3. Form of Administration.

(See pages 32—35 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 35—43 of the report for the year 1901-02 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5. Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 44 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 45—53 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

7. Changes in the Administration.

Personnel.

1. Sir Thomas Gordon Walker, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., held charge as Lieutenant-Governor from the 23rd January of 1908 to the 25th of May 1908, on the forenoon of which date he was relieved by Sir Louis William Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., and retired from the service.

Area, population and revenue of the Punjab.

2. The area of the province according to the latest returns is 97,394 square miles, its population is 20,340,372, and the land revenue collections over 245¾ lakhs of rupees.

8. Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Political supervision.

3. The arrangements for the purposes of supervision of the Native States in the Punjab remain as they were at the time of the last report, Baháwalpur being included with the Phulkián States in the charge of a Political Agent. The States, with the exception of Chamba, which is in the political charge of the Commissioner of Lahore, are arranged in four groups as follows :—I, the Phulkián States, comprising the States of Patiála, Jínd and Nábha, for which a separate Political Agent was appointed on the 16th January 1901, and in whose charge Baháwalpur is now included ; II, the States of Kapúrthala, Mandi, Máler Kotla, Faridkot and Suket in the political charge of the Commissioner of Jullundur ; III, the States of Sirmúr, Kalsia, Pataudi, Loháru and Dujána in the political charge of the Commissioner of Delhi ; and IV, the States of Biláspur, Bashahr, Nálagarh, Keonthal and numerous other small States in the Simla Hills, which are in the charge of the Superintendent of Hill States, Simla.

The Nawab of Máler Kotla, the Raja of Suket, the Sardar of Kalsia and the Nawab of Dujána died during the year.

The young Raja of Suket was married on 22nd June 1908 to a niece of the Raja of Sirmúr.

The health of the people, on the whole, was good, and agricultural conditions were fairly satisfactory, except in the State of Mandi, which suffered from scarcity.

Increasing interest in the material welfare of the people is illustrated by the accumulation of reserves in Jínd and Baháwalpur for expenditure on railways, by the hydro-electric power scheme in Chamba, and by the scheme for water-supply in Sirmúr.

The State of Baháwalpur was honoured by a visit from the Commander-in-Chief, and those of Baháwalpur, Mandi, Máler Kotla, Suket and Biláspur by visits from the Lieutenant-Governor.

Full information will be found in the report for 1901-02 as to the area, population, gross revenue, and estimated military forces, including police, of each State, and the following brief notices are inserted concerning special events of importance in the history of particular States during the year:—

PATIALA.

Area, 5,412 square miles; population 1,596,692; gross revenue, Rs. 78,67,110; army and police, 5,542; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 17.

Personal.

4. The Maharaja spent the whole year in the State. No changes in the Council of Regency took place. Major Popham Young left the State shortly after the close of the year under review, after practically completing the revision of the revenue settlement.

Mr. Biddulph resigned his appointment of Accountant-General in March 1909. His services to the State, which commenced in 1901, have been of very great advantage to its finances.

General.

5. There was an expenditure of 9½ lakhs of rupees on public works, including schemes of water-works for Patiála City and Chail. The mono-rail system was extended, and considerable extensions of the canal system were undertaken.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 282,003; gross revenue, Rs. 13,00,000; army and police, 1,734; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 30.

General.

6. The administration of the State, in which the Raja takes a keen interest, continues to be very satisfactory. There is a reserve of 10 lakhs in the treasury which it is proposed to spend on the State's share of the projected Jínd-Pánipat Railway. The harvests were below the average. The health of the people has been fairly good.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 297,949; gross revenue, Rs. 14,71,539; army and police, 1,480; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 65.

Personal.

7. The health of the Raja has been good. The term of the Tikka Sahib's appointment as an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Council expired during the year. The Raja continues to supervise personally every detail of administration.

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population 720,877; gross revenue, Rs. 30,72,000; army and police, 1,767; race of Chief, Daudputra; age of Chief, 4.

Personal.

8. In December 1908 a minor operation was successfully performed on the Nawab.

The Commander-in-Chief visited the State in November, and on the 2nd of the month, the 50th Anniversary of the assumption of direct rule in India by the Crown, His Excellency held a Darbar at Baháwalpur at which he announced the contents of the Royal Proclamation. The Lieutenant-Governor visited the State in November. Sardar Mahmud Khan, Judicial Member of Council, had to resign during the year owing to ill-health. It has been decided to reduce, tentatively, the number of the members of Council from 5 to 4 and to utilise the money so saved in constituting a Chief Court which will dispose of the judicial work formerly dealt with by the Judicial Member.

9. The State has reserved a very large balance of 64 lakhs in coin, deposits and securities, in view of the expenditure which will have to be made on the proposed Khanpur-Chachran Railway. Progress was made with the survey of a new inundation canal. General.

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 314,351; gross revenue, Rs. 25,00,000; army and police, 1,602; race of Chief, Ahluwalia Sikh; age of Chief, 36; tribute, Rs. 1,31,000.

10. The Raja spent the summer months of 1908 in Europe. During his absence the business of the State was carried on by the Council. Personal.

11. A considerably larger area of land came under cultivation both in the *kharif* and in the *rabi* than in the previous year. General.

The health of the people suffered from an epidemic of cholera in August and September 1908 and malaria was prevalent, but there was no plague, and the number of deaths dropped from 19,984 in 1907-08 to 6,355 in the year under report. The building of the new palace at Kapurthala was finished during the year.

MANDI.

Area, 1,200 square miles; population, 174,045; gross revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police, 691; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 25; tribute, Rs. 1,00,000.

12. Padha Jiwa Nand was Wazir of the State throughout the year. Personal.

13. Excessive rain did much damage to roads and necessitated heavy expenditure on repairs. General.

Prices of food-grains ruled high during the year and the people suffered from severe scarcity. Wheat sold at 6 seers, rice at $5\frac{3}{4}$, and gram at $5\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee. Mandi town was visited by cholera in spring, and small-pox was prevalent in the State during the early part of 1909.

The salt mines and tea gardens were slightly less profitable than in the previous year.

SIRMUR.

Area, 1,198 square miles; population, 135,687; gross revenue, Rs. 6,00,000; army and police, 608; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 42.

14. The administration of this State continues to be most efficient. An extradition treaty between the Darbars of Sirmúr and Bashahr was executed during the year. General.

At the request of the Raja the Punjab Government lent to the State the services of their Sanitary Engineer, who has drawn up a project for a water-supply for the town of Náhan. The scheme is an ambitious one and will cost over $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

MALER KOTLA.

Area, 167 square miles; population, 77,506; gross revenue, Rs. 3,32,747; army and police, 693; race of Chief, Sherawani Afghan; age of Chief, 28.

15. Nawab Muhammad Ibrahim Khan died on 22nd August 1908. His son Ahmad Ali Khan, who had administered the State as Regent since 1905, was formally installed as Nawab by the Lieutenant-Governor. Personal.

16. The produce of both harvests was average, and the number of deaths due to plague decreased by half. General.

FARIDKOT.

Area, 642 square miles; population, 124,912; gorss revenue, Rs. 3,81,912; army and police, 483; race of Chief, Barar Jat; age of Chief, 12.

Personal. 17. The young Raja, Brij Indar Singh, and his brother made good progress at the Aitchison Chiefs' College.

The Council, under the Presidency of Sardar Bahadur Partap Singh, continued to do good work. Sardar Abdul Ghafur Khan, one of the Members, died and his place was taken by Maulvi Wali Ullah.

CHAMBA.

Area, 3,216 square miles; population, 127,834; gross revenue, Rs. 5,89,727; army and police, 419; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 40; tribute, Rs. 3,800.

Personal. 18. Raja Sir Bhuri Singh continues to administer his State in a very satisfactory manner.

The Tikka, Ram Singh, left the Aitchison College and joined the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun, where he is reported to be doing well. The other sons of the Raja are still at the Aitchison College.

General. 19. The reserved forests, the administration of which was handed back to the Raja in 1908, yielded a very much smaller revenue than in the previous year 1907-08 owing to changes in the working plan, which provided for a smaller number of trees being felled.

Satisfactory progress was made with the hydro-electric power scheme.

The people suffered a good deal from malarial fever and from an epidemic of small-pox. Vaccination appears to have been very successful in checking the latter, and the State hospital does good work.

Education is liberally supported by the State.

SUKET.

Area, 420 spuare miles; population, 54,676; gross revenue, Rs. 83,048; army and police, 68; race of Chief, Chandarbansi Rajput; age of Chief, 24; tribute, Rs. 11,000.

Personal. 20. Raja Dusht Nikandan Sen died of asthma on the 26th May 1908, and was succeeded by his son Bhim Sen. The Raja, who is now 24 years old, had been at the Aitchison Chiefs' College since 1902 and had completed his studies at the Government College, Lahore. The installation ceremony was performed at Suket by the Lieutenant-Governor on the 28th October. The Raja was married on the 22nd June 1908 to a niece of the Raja of Sirmur. He has initiated many very necessary reforms in the methods of administration, and it is hoped that he will succeed in rescuing the State from the unfortunate confusion in which his father left it. He takes a close interest in all departments of Government.

KALSIA.

Area, 163 square miles; population, 67,181; gross revenue, Rs. 1,99,725; army and police, 172; race of Chief, Jat; age of Chief, 6.

Personal. 21. Sardar Ranjit Singh, Chief of Kalsia, died at Mussoorie in July 1908. His son, Sardar Ravi Sher Singh, who is six years old, was formally installed on the *gaddi* by the Commissioner of Delhi Division on the 8th March 1909.

During the minority of the Chief the administration is being carried on by a Council consisting of a Sikh President, who is a Government official lent for the purpose, and two Members, one a Hindu, the other a Muhammadan. The Council works under the close supervision of the Commissioner of Delhi Division.

PATAUDI.

Area, 52 square miles; population, 21,933; gross revenue, Rs. 94,725; army and police, 64; race of Chief, Afghan; age of Chief, 49.

22. The Nawabzada Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Khan is being instructed in administration by the Manager. **Personal.**

23. A revision of the land revenue settlement has been effected. **General.**

LOHARU.

Area, 222 square miles; population, 15,229; gross revenue, Rs. 79,650; army and police, 56; race of Chief, Mughal; age of Chief, 49.

24. The first instalment of the loan of Rs. 3,11,000 from the Mamdot Estate mentioned in last year's report has been paid, and all but a very few of the Nawab's debts have been liquidated. The services of a Naib Tahsildar were lent to the State for the purpose of revising the settlement. **General.**

DUJANA.

Area, 100 square miles; population, 24,174; gross revenue, Rs. 77,170; army and police, 207; race of Chief, Pathan; age of Chief, 26; tribute, 50 troopers on requirement.

25. Nawab Muhammad Mumtaz Ali Khan died at Dujána in June 1908. He left no sons, and his cousin, Nawab Khurshed Ali Khan, has been recognised as Nawab. **Personal.**

BILASPUR.

Area, 448 square miles; population, 90,873; gross revenue, Rs. 1,90,000; army and police, 198; race of Chief, Hindu Rajput; age of Chief, 36; tribute, Rs. 8,000.

26. Raja Bije Chand returned to his State in July 1908, accepting certain conditions imposed by Government. Rai Sahib Mian Amar Singh, who had managed the State during the Raja's absence at Benares, remained as Wazir until December, by which time he had practically completed land-revenue settlement operations. In December he was succeeded as Wazir by Mian Durga Singh, formerly Wazir of Jubbal State. The administration is reported to be proceeding smoothly. **Personal.**

BASHAHR.

Area, 3,820 square miles; population, 80,572; gross revenue, Rs. 95,000; army and police, 13; race of Chief, Hindu Rajput; age of Chief, 71.

27. Kanwar Surandah Shah, the Raja's adopted son, took up his residence in the State in May 1908. He was invested with magisterial powers in October. **Personal.**

OTHER HILL STATES.

28. The Tikka of Koti died in January 1909. In Keonthal Rai Sahib Mian Amar Singh was appointed financial manager to administer the income and expenditure of the State and to arrange for the payment of the Raja's debts. It was decided to hand over the management of the Keonthal forests to the Forest Department.

Thakur Ranjit Singh, Chief of Ghund, was invested with ruling powers, subject to certain restrictions. In Bághal the Council was abolished and a manager appointed. The Rana of Jubbal and the Thakur of Taroch were invested with ruling powers.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

29. The peace of the border has not been disturbed by any serious tribal feuds. The working of the Border Military Police and of the joint jirgas was satisfactory. There has been an increase in offences relating to women with a corresponding increase in murder cases. The gradual settling-down of the people is resulting in a rapid increase of land cases.

9. Condition of the people.

30. The year has been on the whole one of great prosperity, except for an unprecedented outbreak of fever in the autumn of 1908. The subject is treated in detail in Chapter VI.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Realization of the revenue., *Surveys.* —Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year—1st October 1907 to 30th September 1908.

Surveys (other than land revenue).—General Report on the Operations of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1908.

Settlements.—Annual Report on the Settlement operations in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1908.

Land Records.—Report on the operations of the Department of Land Records, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1908.

Waste lands and Government Estates.—
1. Annual Report for the Chenab, Jhang, Chunián and Jhelum Colonies for the year ending 30th September 1908.
2. Land Revenue Report, *as above.*

Wards Estates.—Report on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1908.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.—
1. Annual Report of the working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, XIII of 1900, for the year ending 30th September 1908.
2. Land Revenue Report, *as above.*]

10. Realization of the Land Revenue.

General conditions in 1907-08.

31. The heavy rainfall of March and April 1907 was favourable to sowings for autumn crops and, although the monsoon was somewhat late, the general conditions were more or less normal up to the last week in August, when the monsoon rains abruptly and totally ceased. This loss of some three weeks of normal rainfall was disastrous to crops dependent entirely on rain, which were in most parts of the province almost completely a failure. The summer floods in the rivers were abnormally low, with the result that inundation canals opened later and closed earlier than usual, while much land, usually dependent for moisture on direct inundation from the rivers, was not reached by the floods at all.

The early cessation of the monsoon also prevented sowings for spring crops on unirrigated land. It had the further effect of causing a serious shortage of water in perennial canals and the early closing of the inundation canals. The winter rains were extremely late, scanty and short-lived and, though a large area was sown after the rains had asserted themselves, especially in the north of the province, drought set in again in February and March, and much of the late crop was lost.

Fixed land revenue.

32. The total demand was Rs. 2,06,51,946 as compared with Rs. 2,05,35,180, the chief change being the addition of Rs. 1,25,771 to the fixed demand of Ráwalpindi and Attock as the result of the lately concluded settlement in those districts.

Suspensions and remissions.

33. Owing to the widespread failure of both harvests of the year it was found necessary to suspend the collection of Rs. 40,34,423 or practically one-fifth of the fixed demand. Only Rs. 1,83,565 were recovered out of suspended arrears, and the outstanding balance rose from 27½ lakhs at the end of the preceding year to over 61 lakhs. Suspensions were sanctioned in 24 districts of the province, the Delhi division alone being responsible for about Rs. 23½ lakhs.

The marked increase in suspensions since 1895 is partly due to the fact that since that year the province has been suffering from a cycle of unusually dry seasons, and partly to the policy of greater liberality in suspending fixed land revenue which is now adopted in accordance with the recommendations of the Famine Commission and the instructions of the Government of India.

Fluctuating land revenue.

34. Out of the demand for the year under report of Rs. 40,28,682, Rs. 39,52,213 or about 98 per cent. was collected. The only serious balances are in Ferozepore and Montgomery. In both districts the demand which is on account of fluctuating canal advantage rate is under suspension.

The total amount due for collection at the close of the year was Rs. 86,811, of which over Rs. 57,000 is under suspension. It is necessary to explain how it is that a fluctuating demand has at times to be suspended. Under the rules of the older systems of fluctuating assessments the rates are applied not to the harvested but to the sown areas, and were framed on the assumption that a normal proportion of the area sown would bear a matured crop. When, therefore, a widespread failure of sown crops occurs, the assessments fall upon the harvested areas at an unduly high rate, and relief is required.

Miscellaneous land revenue.

35. The total demand of the year under report under miscellaneous land revenue amounts to Rs. 11,62,552, and of this only Rs. 39,767 or about 3 per cent. remained uncollected at the close of the year. The chief item of income is under the head "Sale of Government estates". Most of the recoveries are in the Chenab colony districts of Lyallpur, Gujránwála and Jhang, and in Multán on account of the Sidhnai colony.

Miscellaneous.

36. The proportion of assigned to total land revenue is about one-tenth, nearly 87 per cent. of which is assigned in perpetuity.

The decrease in the amount of revenue recoverable during the year has naturally led to a considerable decrease in the number of processes issued. Revenue-payers on the whole pay their dues to Government with promptness and regularity.

In connection with the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, the question of "remodelling," and its probable effect upon the areas commanded by the upper reaches of canals or distributaries so "remodelled," came under the consideration of the Local Government.

As regards the Punjab Minor Canals Act, the year was a bad one for minor canals generally owing to the abnormal shortage of water in the rivers. During the year the Local Government, in accordance with the recommendations of the Irrigation Commission, instituted a survey of the irrigation possibilities of the province by districts. Hill torrents are being checked, and sub-artesian supplies exploited.

Over 22 lakhs of rupees were advanced under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvement Acts. These liberal advances materially helped the people to stave off famine, but the outstanding balance of principal alone at the end of the year, nearly 35½ lakhs, is too high to be viewed with entire equanimity. The outstanding balances of fixed and fluctuating land revenue and advances (principal only) to cultivators amount to nearly 8 annas, while the collections for the year amount to little more than one rupee, per head of population.

11. Survey.

Topographical work.

37. No. 9 Party continued the work on which it was employed during the preceding season in and about Dera Gházi Khan, consisting of original topographical surveys. The outturn of the Party for the season was 2,313 square miles. Part of the operations of No. 14 Party and of No. 12 Party lay in Attock district.

The Cantonment Survey Section No. 1 had all but completed the survey of the *gallies* round Murree by the end of the year under report. A small area added to Delhi by an extension of the boundary was also surveyed.

Traverse survey.

38. Progress was made with the Bari Doab Traverse under an officer of Survey Party No. 18 with head-quarters at Montgomery. Eleven traversers were originally allotted to this work, but during the season about half were gradually drafted away to meet the requirements of the Riverain section, thereby disturbing progress considerably. Difficulties in regard to transport and labour in the desert were again considerable. The outturn was about 1,000 linear miles of traverse, fixing nearly 400 bases. Riverain work was continued by another officer of this Party with head-quarters at Lahore.

Boundary demarcation.

39. The work of boundary demarcation now consists mainly in the determination of riverain boundaries.

The Local Government has been asked to sanction the decision arrived at by agreement between the Collector of Montgomery and the Bahá-walpur State authorities on all the points of dispute outstanding over the fixed boundary on the Sutlej between this district and the State; and the boundary on the Sutlej between the districts of Hoshiárpur and Ambála has been determined.

The laying down of permanent boundaries of proprietary right along the rivers has resulted in a marked reduction in the amount of boundary work annually done by Revenue Officers, and in the number of disputes and civil and criminal cases which used frequently to arise over varying boundaries. Practically the only case in which boundaries of proprietary right and jurisdiction along rivers have not yet been fixed is that of the boundary between the Punjab and the United Provinces along the Jumna river. The advisability of fixing a permanent boundary in this case also was exemplified during the year by the transfer, owing to the action of the river, of 4,882 acres of land from the Saháranpur district of the United Provinces to the Punjab district of Karnál.

12. Settlements.

40. Settlement operations have been completed in Miánwáli; they are proceeding rapidly in five districts of the Delhi division, *viz.*, Gurgaon, Karnál, Rohtak, Hissar and Delhi, and a good beginning has been made in Gurdáspur.

Anticipations as to the probable duration of settlement operations continue to be falsified for one reason or another, but there does seem ground for hope that the instructions under consideration for shortening the process of revision of the map and record will lessen the duration and substantially reduce the cost and harassment of this part of settlement work.

New assessments have been sanctioned for an area paying 4½ lakhs of rupees. Soil survey operations required in connection with the great canals now under construction are proceeding satisfactorily and the villagers give a favourable reception to the re-adjustment of fields so as to make them rectangular areas.

13. Land Records.

Patwaris.

41. The present percentage of men who belong to agricultural tribes is only 27, but as 48 per cent. of the candidates belong to those tribes, this percentage is likely to improve.

The pay and prospects do not appear to attract the class of men required, but as a whole the present staff perform their important duties with wonderful honesty and intelligence. The general excellence of the land record work done by all grades of the revenue staff, from the Deputy Commissioner to the patwari, is of great value in its results both to the administration and to the individual owner and cultivator of the land.

Mutations.

42. This year the enormous number of 851,000 mutations were entered up in the patwaris' registers. There were, in addition, 106,739 mutations left over for disposal from last year.

For the increase in volume of work many reasons suggest themselves: increase in population and cultivation, especially in the canal colonies; in some districts excessive mortality from plague and fever; extensions of the system of fluctuating assessments, which must in itself lead to more prompt mutation of names. There is also little doubt that as time goes on fewer mutations escape being brought to record at the time; and this in itself, while it increases the amount of current work, will tend to reduce the labour involved in the periodical revision of the records which takes place at settlement.

14. Waste Lands and Government Estates.

Chenab Colony.

43. In this colony the results have exceeded the most sanguine expectations. In 1892 the tract was a wilderness: in the past year 1907-08, in spite of the failure of the monsoon and the abnormal shortage of water in the river, the colony was able to feed itself and export over £2,000,000 worth of wheat, toria and cotton alone, to say nothing of other crops.

Small additional areas were given out during the year amounting to a net increase in the allotted area of 11,290 acres. The area sown on permanently allotted land amounted to 93 per cent. of the allotted area. Sowings for spring crops were restricted for want of water and the Irrigation Officers were put to it to find water to mature even the restricted area sown, but the result was a triumph of canal distribution.

Mule-breeding is developing rapidly, and 351 mules were purchased for the army as against 100 in the previous year. Camel service grants cannot be described as successful for the present, as the grantees at the tail of two distributaries, where the irrigation and grazing are inadequate, have been exempted temporarily from maintaining camels; but the irrigation of the lands held by camel grantees can probably be improved and ample grazing grounds should be available in the Thal between the Jhelum and the Indus, so that the success of this important experiment is not despaired of.

The competition for grants-in-aid for sanitation has aroused a real interest in the question and the colonists generally are far ahead of their brethren elsewhere in their appreciation of sanitary practice. Many villages are patterns of cleanliness and comfort, and the people evidently take pride in them and in their imposing houses of brick and mortar.

Jhelum Colony.

44. The Jhelum Colony has been extraordinarily unfortunate in the succession of calamities from which it suffered in its early days—drought, bollworm, rust, rats and plague. In 1907-08 the autumn harvest was marked by drought, shortage of water and a plague of rats, but the area sown for the spring crop was 70 per cent. of the total area sown during the year; and with an excellent wheat crop and high prices, the year from the colonists' point of view is the most prosperous they have known. For the first time a year has passed unmarked by plague or a total failure of either harvest.

The success of the horse-breeding experiment on the Lower Jhelum Canal is highly gratifying. The industry has become a valuable asset both to Government and to the grantees. Again, during the past cold weather the Army Remount Department has been able to secure the full number of remounts required and the drafts sent from the Mona Depôt to three British Cavalry Regiments were of very high quality.

The unallotted area, 87,351 acres, is high. Since it has all been refused time after time as inferior by prospective colonists, to whom Government is pledged to provide land, it has been decided to allot the land locally.

45. Nearly all the commanded area in this colony has been allotted permanently. In spite of the low supplies in this canal, 91 per cent. of the permanently allotted area was sown and 76 per cent. bore a matured crop. The percentage of failure is high, but the year was an exceptional one and very high prices were obtained for all produce. Considerable difficulty is being experienced in recovering the sale price from certain auction purchasers to whom further time has been given. The balance due at the end of the year was over half a lakh. Chunian Colony.

46. The whole of the available area in this colony has now been allotted. Twenty-nine per cent. of the allotted area was sown during the year, which is an improvement on the previous figures. Much of the land allotted is believed to be inferior, and as it has been taken up by owners in neighbouring villages, a high percentage of cultivated area need not be expected. Forty-two per cent., however, of the sown area failed to bear a matured crop, and it appears that there is still some shortage of water. Jhang Colony.

47. The report of the working of the Chos Act, 1900, is fairly satisfactory, and good progress appears to have been made in re-clothing the hills with vegetation. The Local Government has agreed to acquire a small area in the Maili Cho and lease it to the Christian Colony of the village for experiments in training the torrent by engineering methods. This year's report again furnishes welcome evidence that the people are awaking to the necessity of curbing these streams, and applications have been made for the assistance of Government in doing so. Other Government waste.

15. Wards Estates.

48. The number of estates under management is 48 as against 47 last year, two properties having been taken over and one released. In the case of the latter, debts amounting to Rs. 30,682 have been paid off and the net assets on release were valued at Rs. 89,000 against Rs. 77,000 at the time of assumption of charge. As regards the disposal of assets, several estates made considerable purchases of land in the Chenab Colony and elsewhere of house property and of Government paper, while nearly one lakh and-a-quarter of rupees were spent by all estates in permanent improvements. The total assets of the 48 estates with their area of 300,000 acres amount to over 3½ crores of rupees and their liabilities to 15 lakhs.

Increased powers were delegated provisionally to Commissioners and Collectors to save unnecessary correspondence.

16. Revenue and rent paying classes.

49. The year to which this report relates was the first in which really acute agricultural distress has been general in the province since the passing of the Land Alienation Act: and the policy embodied in the Act was put to a severe test. Results appear to indicate that the peasant, instead of alienating land in times of scarcity, applies now to Government for suspensions of land revenue and for loans. During the year 40¾ lakhs of rupees were suspended out of the revenue and 22¼ lakhs were advanced as takavi, that is, 63 lakhs of rupees, which in less lenient times the people would have raised from the money-lender at high interest or by alienation of their lands, were granted to them by Government free of interest or nearly so. Land Alienation Act.

There are no returns of the amount of floating debt incurred in the past year, but the figures of sales and mortgages of land afford a clear indication of the improved capacity of the zamindar to weather a season of scarcity. The total area of land sold in the past year was 9 per cent. below the average of the quinquennium ending 1906 and 20 per cent. below that of the previous five years; the greater part of the land sold was bought by members of agricultural tribes, and the average price of cultivated land per acre was Rs. 97 or only Re. 1 less than the record price of the preceding year. The price equalled 108 times the land revenue assessed and the present selling value of the proprietary rights in the land of the province is estimated at about 150 million pounds sterling.

Turning to the figures of mortgages ; it appears that though the cultivated area mortgaged has increased, it is considerably less than the area redeemed, and on the balance an area of 75,600 acres of cultivated land was freed from the burden of mortgage in the past year. Moreover, of the total area mortgaged, 73 per cent. was mortgaged to members of agricultural tribes.

On the other hand, the total amount of mortgage-debt has increased by 35½ lakhs of rupees in the year 1907-08. Indeed, while a net area of 339,524 acres has, during the past four years, been released from mortgage, the burden of debt on the land has risen by over a crore of rupees. This at least shows how enormously the value of land has increased, as a much smaller area is now required to secure a much larger debt. Borrowings on agricultural land are now much less reckless ; for, whereas the amounts raised by sale and mortgage—after deducting the sums used for redemptions—were in the three years before the passing of the Act 265, 253 and 245 lakhs of rupees, during the last three years they have been only 142, 144 and 163 lakhs, and though it is known that the peasants' homesteads instead of their land are in many cases being used as security, the country people would seem to be learning slowly, but unmistakeably, under the influence of the spread of education, the institution of co-operative credit and other social movements, the lesson of thrift. The money-lenders no doubt resent the fact that they have been prevented from acquiring landed property, but their business has not been injured so much as altered by the Act.

Tenants and rents.

50. The number of decided suits for enhancement of rent was 2,224 against 1,400 in 1907 and 698 in 1906. The rise is almost entirely due to the disposal in Hoshiárpur of practically all pending suits. Seeing that there are about one million holdings of tenants with rights of occupancy, the amount of litigation regarding their rents is on the whole very small. This is mainly due to the fact that, as a general rule, the rents of such tenants are fixed in terms of the land revenue and are raised or lowered automatically when any change takes place in the land revenue assessed on the land. Proceedings for the ejectment of tenants-at-will have received a considerable set back owing probably to the badness of the seasons and the marked rise in wages.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

51. Eleven declarations of a rule of integral descent were notified, bringing the total number of jagirs gazetted up to the end of September 1908 to 108 with an annual value of nearly 7 lakhs of rupees. Action is being taken in a number of cases, but in Ambála, where an attitude of distrust prevails, 212 jagirdars have signified their refusal to negotiate, and their objections though sentimental are as strong as ever. In Karnál, Jullundur and Ferozepore also the benefits of the Act have not yet been appreciated.

CHAPTER III.
PROTECTION.

[Detailed information and statistics on the subjects included in this chapter will be found in the following reports :—

Police.—(1) Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1908.

(2) Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1908.

Criminal Justice.—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1908.

Prisons.—(1) Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1908.

(2) Annual Report on the Reformatory School, Delhi for 1908.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1908.

Registration.—Note on the Registration Returns of the Punjab for the year 1908.

Local Boards Administration.—District Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1908-09.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1908-09.

And in Statistics of British India, Part VI—Administrative and Judicial, and Part VIII—Local Funds]

17. Legislating Authority.

(See pages 83 and 84 of the report for the year 1901 02).

18. Course of Legislation.

52. No meeting of the Punjab Legislative Council was held during the year 1908-09. Punjab Council.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Ker, C.I.E., was appointed Hon'ble Member of the Council.

19.—Police.

53. The earlier part of 1908 was marked by a continuance of the conditions which had prevailed in the latter part of 1907. Crimes of violence succeeded each other with startling rapidity. Severe want, the maintenance of high prices and the remains of political unrest led to increase of crime, especially in the towns and cities to which the indigent always flock in times of scarcity. A spirit of lawlessness was abroad, notably among the Mánjha Jat Sikhs of the Central Punjab. As it is, the figures of reported crime in 1908 show a large increase on previous years in the case of the more serious classes of crime. But this increase would have been still more marked had not the heavy autumn rains and the appalling epidemic of malaria contributed materially towards the reduction of serious crime to a normal standard.

The total number of cognisable offences reported was 70,014 as compared with 66,632 in 1907.

There was a slight increase in rioting, mainly in the Mánjha tract, due apparently to the consumption of country spirit.

Reports of murders rose by 79 cases, and "true" cases were 71 in excess of the totals for 1907. Convictions were obtained in 44 per cent. of the true cases against 41 per cent. last year. The percentage of convictions in attempts at murder cases was 62 and in culpable homicide cases 70.

Dacoities numbered 74, which is an increase of 5 only on 1907, but the number is 20 in excess of the provincial average for the 6 years ending 1907. The Lahore district had the unenviable notoriety of leading the provincial figures with no less than 18 cases—mostly attributable to Mangal and his gang. The number of true cases of burglary shows a continuation of the previous tendency to increase. In 1906 these cases totalled 11,252 for the year. In 1907 this figure rose to 12,087 and in 1908 to 13,700. Similarly, cases of cattle theft returned as true increased by 299 as compared with the previous year.

The police have invariably shown themselves to be possessed of pluck and resource in dealing with open crime. Their discipline is good, and in the brain work of the force, as shewn by investigation, there has also been improvement.

The constables and the higher ranks are now fairly paid and represent all classes in the Punjab: over 40 per cent. of the men have ten years' service or more, and only 24 per cent. have less than three years' service. Dismissals from the force were only ·8 per cent.

On the 1st of January 1908, there were 25 punitive posts in existence; four new posts were added during the year and seven were abolished, leaving a balance of 22 at the end of the year. Generally, the effect of these posts is reported to be wholesome and deterrent.

Railway Police and Criminal Investigation Department.

54. Excluding false cases the number of cognisable offences reported during the year to the Railway Police was 2,530 against 2,403 in 1907, the increase being mainly in ordinary theft of bags of grain. The Railway administration are providing more covered waggons which will greatly reduce this kind of theft.

Six cases of murder were reported, including the brutal murder of Miss Taylor in the Karachi Mail Train.

There were 3 cases of dacoity, one of which was a successful armed raid by about 40 trans-border Afridis on the Peshawar City Railway Station.

There has been an improvement in co-operation between the Railway Police and the Police of Native States. The Criminal Investigation Department has again a good record, including the successful prosecution of a swindler who managed a so-called "Appointments Procuring Agency", and the maintenance of a careful watch on the illicit trade in arms and ammunition.

Rural Police.

(See pages 88 and 89 of the report for 1901-02).

Criminal Tribes.

55. There are sixteen criminal tribes in the Punjab proclaimed under the Criminal Tribes Act either throughout the Punjab or in particular districts. The largest of these are the Sansis and the Baurias. The total number of registered members of criminal tribes rose by 1·7 per cent. mainly owing to the number of children brought on the register on attaining the prescribed age. Convictions decreased by 3·5 per cent. On the whole, the Act was carefully worked, although in a few instances a tendency was noticed unnecessarily to disturb—on the ground that they were absentees—members of tribes who were earning an honest living after settling down in other districts.

Canal works have opened up a promising field for the energies of more than one tribe; every encouragement is being given to these people to resort to labour as a means of subsistence, and the experiment which is being tried by the Salvation Army to provide an industrial home for criminal tribes in the Ludhiána district will be watched with interest.

20.—Criminal Justice.

The number of offences reported during the year was 193,059, of which 124,921 were returned as "true." The figures for reported crime are the highest of any year, except 1906, since the Punjab was constituted within its present boundaries. Scarcity conditions account for most of the increase, but in certain favoured tracts, such as the Chenab Colony, wealth whetted the natural appetite for criminal litigation.

Percentage of convictions.

56. The percentage of persons convicted to those tried rose from 22 to just under 25, and there is a slight increase in the total number of cases dismissed *in limine*.

Registration of marriages.

57. Registration of marriages among Muhammadans has now been established as a successful system in many districts, but offences relating to women again figure largely.

There is a shortage of women, and their price has gone up. Much of the trouble arises from the laxity of the *karewa* system, and the practice of buying and selling women as wives without any concurrent marriage ceremonial

58. False evidence is so common that it is out of the question to institute numerous prosecutions. Such prosecutions as are ordered are generally well selected cases, and even in these the accused stands a two to one chance of acquittal. Perjury.

59. The Chief Court confirmed the capital sentence in 58 and commuted it in 11 cases; 21 persons were acquitted. Punishments.

The number of persons whipped was 1,827 against 2,045, and the number sentenced to solitary confinement 6,766 against 5,694 in 1907.

21. Prisons.

60. There was no change in the number or status of jails in the Punjab during the year 1908. The policy of converting judicial lock-ups into subsidiary jails has been successfully inaugurated. This class of institution accommodates short-term prisoners, and is run on simple lines with an abbreviated code. It has the advantage of keeping the short-termed prisoners apart from the more serious criminals, and is more amenable to measures of discipline and control.

Proposals were received for the greater concentration of convicts in central jails, the erection of a new central jail at Ludhiána and the conversion of some of the present district jails into central jails. As a part of the scheme, certain other district jails were to be reduced to the status of subsidiary jails. The remunerative employment of extra-mural convict labour on canal works was, however, also under consideration, and the problem of combining concentration and remuneration was not solved.

61. The number of convicts received in the jails during the year was 17,803 as against 15,748 in 1907. The steady decline in the figures of convict admissions since 1903 has thus been broken for the first time in 6 years. Fifty-four juveniles as against 31 in 1907 were admitted to the Reformatory School, Delhi; the average daily strength was no less than 102·94 as against 67·65. This extended use of the Reformatory is satisfactory, but still more might be done, as it is observed that the number of juveniles sent to jail rose from 79 to 94. The present rise in juvenile crime is a bad sign of the times. Convict admissions. The Reformatory School.

62. In spite of the many occasions on which the attention of magistrates has been drawn to the impropriety of sentencing juveniles to short terms of imprisonment, such sentences are still awarded. Nor does the tendency to award short sentences to persons other than juveniles appear to be decreasing. For while in 1908, 3,467 persons were sentenced to imprisonment of one month or less, showing a slightly lower percentage, 20, than last year, the percentage of persons sentenced to periods of not more than six months on the total number sentenced has increased from 56·20 in 1906 and 58·15 in 1907 to 60·14 in 1908. At the same time it is satisfactory to observe that the percentage of long-term sentences from 1 to 10 years is being maintained. Sentences of transportation fell from 212 in 1907 to 191 in 1908. Nature of sentences.

63. The number of successful plots to escape was the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 9, but the prisoners actually escaping were 19 as against 9 in 1907; 8 were still at large at the end of the year. Discipline.

The number of prison offences rose from 36,892 in 1905 and 44,143 in 1907 to 56,837 in 1908. This increase seems to be due partly to worse behaviour on the part of the prisoners, partly to increased vigilance in reporting offences on the part of the subordinate establishment. The mark system ended with the year 1908, after which the unit of remission became the day instead of the mark.

64. The total expenditure on guarding and maintenance during the year was Rs. 10,05,688 against Rs. 7,85,525 in 1907, and Rs. 8,16,224 in 1906. Calculated on the daily average strength, the cost per head was Rs. 83-9-8 against Rs. 70-8-6 in 1907, and Rs. 69-9-9 in 1906. Most of the increase falls under dieting charges. Cash earnings rose from Rs. 9-1-0 to Rs. 11-10-0 per head, and gross profits from Rs. 1,47,494 to Rs. 1,69,967. Income and expenditure.

65. The general health was better than in 1907, but the mortality increased. This was due to tubercle and dysentery. That only 10 per cent. of Vital statistics.

prisoners suffered from malaria as against some 90 per cent. of the free population is a wonderful tribute to prison management.

22. Civil Justice.

Institutions.

66. In the triennium 1902—04 the average number of civil suits annually instituted was 214,795. The Punjab Loans Limitation Act of 1904 caused an immediate and marked diminution in litigation. In the three succeeding years, 1905—07, the average number of institutions was 164,092. The effect of the extension of the period of limitation upon the statistics of litigation has now commenced to pass away. The institutions of the year now under review rose to 189,150. This rise may be expected to continue until six years have elapsed from the date of the Limitation Act, when the figures of the period anterior to 1904 will probably be repeated.

Disposals.

67. Original suits for disposal in courts subordinate to the Chief Court rose form 196,650 to 221,842. The pending file on the 31st December stood 4,000 higher than at the close of the previous year, in spite of the fact that disposals rose from 176,320 to 196,911. There was no change in the average duration of either contested or uncontested cases. There was an appreciable falling off in the output of Divisional Judges, but in the Chief Court disposals kept pace with institutions.

Execution of decrees.

68. The percentage of realizations to the value of money decrees in execution was 27. There was a decrease in applications for execution, for creditors, unless driven to it by the law of limitation, are beginning to refrain from applying for executions against the peasantry in a hopeless year, such as the year under report.

General.

69. The chief matters under consideration were—

The *personnel* of Munsifs' courts, the proposed establishment of *panchayat* courts for the disposal of petty civil suits, the improvement of the law of appeal, the amending of the Pre-emption Act, the institution of summary extra-judicial jurisdiction in redemption of mortgage suits and the applicability of the Transfer of Property Act to the Punjab.

23. Registration.

70. The rise in the number of compulsory registrations of immoveable property from 61,032 of a value of 456½ lakhs to 71,354 of a value of over 561 lakhs seems to indicate that the hard times of 1908 led to the mortgage and sale of much more land than usual. To find a year in which a larger number of deeds were registered than in 1908, we have to go back to 1900, *i.e.*, to the period prior to the passing of the Punjab Land Alienation Act.

Optional registrations.

71. Optional registrations have risen in number from 6,556 to 7,316 and in value from nearly 9 lakhs to nearly 10 lakhs of rupees. The persistent decrease in these registrations noted in the review of last year's report has thus been arrested, but this may be due merely to the abnormal circumstances of the year and not to lack of confidence in mutation procedure.

Income and expenditure.

72. Registration income has risen from Rs. 2,53,921 to Rs. 2,93,380 or 16 per cent., and expenditure from Rs. 1,31,168 to Rs. 1,43,080, or 9 per cent. The increased volume of business is mainly responsible for this rise, but the grant of compensation allowance for dearness of provisions to the establishments and to Sub-Registrars drawing Rs. 30 a month has also swelled the expenditure

Miscellaneous

73. The Indian Registration Act of 1877 having been repealed by Act XVI of 1908 which came into force with effect from January 1st, 1909, a revision of the Registration Manual of 1887 became necessary and was taken in hand.

24.—Local Boards Administration.

Elections.

74. Few elections to district boards elicit contests. The district board of Gujránwála decided that election was little better than a farce, and passed a resolution that nomination should be substituted therefor. Even in contested elections interest flags. In Ambála the 25 vacancies

which occurred during the year produced 2 contests, in which only 44 voters out of 688 came to the polls. Only in Hoshiárpur and in Ludhiána was any interest in elections aroused.

Meetings.

75. The average number of ordinary and special meetings of boards during the year was approximately 6. Except in one or two districts, members display little or no enthusiasm in the working of the boards; but various efforts are being persevered in with a view to encouraging an intelligent appreciation and discussion of more important matters of principle by the members.

25. Municipal Administration.

New municipalities established and old municipalities abolished.

76. Judged by statistics of the average population of municipalities in the various provinces of India, the powers of self-government provided in Municipal Acts were granted much more freely in the Punjab than elsewhere. This has not proved by any means an unmixed good in the case of the smaller towns which are distant from district head-quarters, and in several instances the statutory powers of committees have been exercised with partiality, if not with corruption; the assessment of taxation has not been equitable; the working of the octroi system has been especially faulty; and the cost of collection of the tax has been out of all proportion to the revenue derived from it. Above all the complicated procedure of the Municipal Act has been found unsuitable to the conditions of these smaller towns, and the machinery required for its execution unnecessarily expensive. These were the considerations which in 1906 actuated Government in considering the advisability of reducing some minor municipalities either entirely or to the status of notified areas. The execution of this policy commenced in 1907-08 and has continued in the past year, during which 25 municipalities have been transformed into notified areas and 1 reduced entirely.

Elections.

77. There were 226 vacancies on committees to be filled by election in the past year. Of these only 55 were contested, and in 2 cases no candidate came forward, with the result that the seats had to be filled by nomination. Many persons who would be useful members decline to stand for election if a contest is likely, owing to the prevalence of discreditable practices at elections. Possibly one of the results of allowing certain groups of municipal committees to elect members for the reconstituted Legislative Council may be to make the elective system more respected and to induce men of good standing to come forward more freely for election. In spite of the drawbacks of the elective system, it can be said that the working of committees has on the whole been good.

The recommendations of the Royal Commission on Decentralization have been circulated for opinion, and though many of their proposals had previously been, or were already being, adopted in the Punjab, the outcome should be a considerable increase in the powers and responsibilities of municipalities.

Taxation.

78. Octroi still continues to be the main source of municipal revenue. It was abolished in the towns from which the municipal status was taken away, and a house tax was imposed on most of the newly-created notified areas. There has been a fairly general decrease in the receipts from octroi in the past year in spite of the steady revision of octroi schedules, which generally entails some increase in the rates levied. The decrease amounts to $2\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs altogether. The reasons given are the general trade depression which prevailed, the severe epidemic of malaria caused by the heavy rains of 1908, the interruption of communications by floods, and the cessation of Hindu marriages for part of the year. This decrease can, therefore, be put down as one of the good points of the tax, for its incidence responds readily to any change in the material prosperity of the people. As to the working of the tax, it is a fairly general rule that the cost of collection is highest in the smallest and least efficient municipalities.

Incidence.

79. The list of towns in which the incidence per head of taxation exceeds Rs. 2 is shorter by 6 than last year, and in several of the towns remaining on the list the incidence has decreased.

26. Military (Volunteers).

Strength and distribution of Volunteer Forces.

80. The strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1909 is reported to have been as follows :—

Corps.	Company.	Station.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficient.	Sergeant-Instructors.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	4
	A	Lahore	2	17	58	77	77	...
	B	Ambála	2	11	50	63	63	...
	C	Ráwalpindi	2	5	71	78	78	...
	D R½	Pesháwar	1	2	21	24	24	...
	D L½	Amritsar	1	3	17	21	20	...
	E	Lyallpur	...	2	18	20	17	...
		Multán	1	2	8	11	10	...
		Jhang	...	...	3	3	3	...
		Sargodha	...	...	3	3	3	...
	...	Reservists	2	...	62	64	62	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	4	...	...	4	...	...
		Total ...	24	42	311	377	366	4
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	11	...	...	11	11	9
	A, B, C and Cadet ½ Company	Lahore	9	29	273	311	302	...
	D	Ráwalpindi	3	8	135	146	123	...
	E	Amritsar	2	6	58	66	53	...
	F	Delhi	3	7	60	70	69	...
	G and H	Murree	5	15	99	119	118	...
	I	Pesháwar	3	5	51	59	53	...
	K	Ferozepore	1	7	71	79	79	...
	L	Srínagar	3	8	85	96	89	...
	M	Siálkot	3	4	31	38	36	...
	...	Reservists	2	...	102	104	100	...
	...	Add for Supernumrary Officers	20	...	...	20	...	...
		Total ...	65	89	965	1,119	1,033	9
Simla Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	8	...	...	8	8	3
	A	Simla	2	8	35	45	44	...
	B		3	11	91	105	105	...
	C		2	8	41	51	51	...
	D		3	9	55	67	67	...
	E		3	11	86	100	100	...
	F	Sanáwar	3	9	122	134	134	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	15	15	15	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Officers ...	12	...	...	12	...	...
		Total ...	36	56	445	537	524	3
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	8	...	...	8	8	12
	A	Karáchi Cantonment	2	8	51	61	59	...
	B	Multán	3	5	83	91	87	...
	C	Lahore	5	11	158	174	162	...
	D	Lahore	3	13	90	106	101	...
	E	Ambála	3	14	129	146	145	...
	F	Saháranpur	3	9	133	145	144	...
	G	Kotri	1	7	72	80	79	...
	H	Lahore	5	23	156	184	179	...
	I	Quetta	3	8	74	85	85	...
	K	Ráwalpindi	5	18	108	131	126	...
	L	Sukker	2	11	89	102	101	...
	M	Karáchi City	2	3	52	57	55	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Members ...	6	...	...	6	...	...
		Total ...	51	130	1,195	1,376	1,331	12

Inspections.

81. The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifle Corps and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in February 1909, and the Simla Volunteer Rifles once in 1908. The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Agriculture.—(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1909.

(2) Annual Report of the Lyallpur Agricultural Station for the autumn and spring harvests, 1908-09.

(3) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1908-09.

(4) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1908.

(5) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1909.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the weather of the Punjab for the year 1908-09.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1908-09.

Horticulture.—Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1909.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1908-09.

Arboriculture.—Progress Report on Arboriculture in the Punjab for the triennial period 1905-06 to 1907-08.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Reports on the working of the Dandot Colliery for the half-years ending 30th June 1908 and 31st December 1908.

(2) Statement showing the production of minerals and gems for the calendar year 1908.

Manufactures.—(1) Report on the working of the Factories Act in the Punjab during the year 1908.

(2) Monograph on the Wire and Tinsel Industry in the Punjab, 1908.

Trade.—(1) Report on the Internal Trade of the Punjab by rail and river for the year ending March 31st, 1909.

(2) Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1908-09.

(3) Report on the Joint Stock Companies in the Punjab for the year 1908-09.

Public Works.—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1908-09.

Irrigation.—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Irrigation Branch, for the year 1908-09.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Agriculture.—As to *prices* see Prices and Wages in India.

Crops.—Agricultural Statistics of India, volume I, tables 2-I and 3-I.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Statistics of British India, Part I.
(2) Records of the Geological Survey of India, volume XXXVII.
(3) Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1908.

Manufactures.—Statistics of British India, Part I.

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the calendar year 1908.

Trade.—Accounts of the Trade carried by Rail and River in India.]

27. Agriculture.

Agricultural Department.

82. Lyallpur Agricultural College was not opened during the year as some of the buildings were still unfinished. Its foundation has created considerable interest, and 574 applications for admission have already been received. Of these a fair proportion has come from landowners and others whose main object is to acquire a scientific knowledge of agriculture. For the first year, however, the number of admissions will be restricted to 16, as the teaching staff has not yet been fully recruited and trained in its duties.

It is satisfactory to learn that, owing to a revolution in milling machinery, some of our hard red varieties of wheat are now much more sought after than soft white wheat by many up-to-date millers, for the soft white wheats do not really suit the province, and were grown chiefly to meet the foreign demand. Punjab wheat at present suffers from being exported with a substantial addition of foreign grains and dust, which could be removed by means of elevators. The result of the inquiries of the Imperial committee on elevators is awaited, as the subject is one of the greatest importance to the colonies where the conditions are similar to those in Canada and the United States.

Experimental work at Lyallpur.

83. At Lyallpur Agricultural Station considerable advance has been made in the work of selecting a cotton properly suited to the province; interesting experiments have been made in the cultivation of jute, the trial of chrome leather for well buckets, the use of castor cake for manure and in sugar-making with Mr. Hadi's plant, but definite results in these matters have not yet been attained, though it would seem fairly clear that the Hadi process is not suited to the Punjab. Bee-keeping and poultry-farming have also received a considerable share of attention during the year. Another experiment of considerable interest is the attempt to revive sericulture in the Punjab. The attempt has attained a very fair measure of success, and in Gurdáspur private enterprise has stepped in to revive this moribund industry.

Agricultural machinery is growing in popularity, as is proved by the fact that a commercial firm have considered it worth their while to relieve the department of the work of distribution in the case of reapers and some other implements. A bulletin is issued giving the price, source of supply and special advantages of each implement tested and approved by the department.

Agricultural operations in the districts.

84. In Jhelum colony American cotton did well as regards both outturn and price. The distribution in districts of seed of selected indigenous cotton has led to the conclusion that the cotton-growers in these districts, except in Hissar, already do all that is reasonably possible for non-scientific men in the matter of the selection of seed.

Punjab Veterinary College.

85. The demand for the services of Veterinary Assistants during the year has been considerable. It will be some years before the supply can possibly equal the demand. This fact, combined with the very large number of requests for admission, makes a strong case for the founding of another Veterinary College in Upper India. Another aspect of the case is that, under present circumstances, after providing for military students and scholars deputed from other provinces, there are an unduly small number of vacancies left for Punjabis.

In an attempt to cope with the demand for trained men, unmanageably large classes were admitted in 1906 and 1907, and the results of the annual examination still show a somewhat low percentage of total passes in consequence.

The Quarterly Indian Veterinary Journal in Urdu has been revived.

Civil Veterinary Department.

86. The year was particularly unhealthy for cattle owing to the excessive rainfall. The new method of reporting epidemic disease and collecting statistics works well on the whole and is probably the best that can be devised in the absence of any law compelling owners to report diseases.

Two hundred and twenty-four deaths from equine contagious disease in districts not dealt with by the Army Remount Department were reported against 107 last year, surra being the cause of 163, but as patwaris rarely realize the contagious nature of the diseases from which equines die, no inference can be deduced from the figures which are prepared mainly from information received from the veterinary staff. Among bovines, the mortality from rinderpest was not extraordinarily heavy, but hæmorrhagic septicæmia, the most deadly of all cattle diseases in the Punjab, accounted for over 20,000 deaths. A good preventive agent for this scourge is still to seek.

There were 86 Veterinary hospitals against 77 in the previous year and the number of cases treated rose by 50 per cent. The subordinate staff, which is still short of the sanctioned scale, will be recruited at the rate of eight a year.

Agricultural pests.

87. Insect pests were very little in evidence during the year. Autumn crops suffered considerably in some districts from an excessive growth of weeds which the peasants were too weak from fever to remove.

Loans to agriculturists.

88. In the year 1907-08 Rs. 3,35,347 were advanced to agriculturists under the Land Improvement Loans Act against Rs. 1,26,499, and Rs. 18,94,837 under the Agriculturists' Loans Act against Rs. 2,77,119 in the previous year.

The amount distributed under the latter Act has only been approached or exceeded in the famine year of 1899-1900. These liberal loans of State money enabled the farmers of the tracts affected by drought to sow and bring to maturity a considerably larger area of crops than they otherwise could have done, and coupled with the equally liberal suspensions granted of the fixed land revenue demand, they kept capital in the distressed areas, and helped to maintain employment for labourers and so to stave off famine conditions with their attendant dislocation of village economy and expense to the State.

As usual the result of the working of the Land Improvement Loans Act showed a profit to the Local Government: on the other hand, operations under the Agriculturists' Loans Act again entailed a loss, but it is expected that in future loans under this Act also may bring a small profit to the Local Government.

Co-operative credit societies.

89. Seventy-six new rural societies were started during the year, to which must be added 12 which were at the end of last year classed as nominal, but which have since started active work. On the other hand, 34 societies were ordered to be wound up. Altogether there are now 311 active rural societies. Working capital increased from 5 to over $7\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, of which less than 30 per cent. is borrowed capital; the balance is furnished by the members themselves. Share capital and deposits by members have increased from $3\frac{3}{4}$ to over 5 lakhs.

Of the 5 urban societies, the Jullundur Bank founded in 1909 is the first Punjab district bank intended to finance rural societies, of which very few are self-sufficient. Further, in order to attract money which is ready for investment away from head-quarters, unions are being inaugurated. These unions and the district banks will supplement one another, the latter acting as distributors of surplus money both to unions in each district and to other districts: while an added advantage of the unions is that they promise to provide a method of control over societies by societies.

Prices.

90. With a much better harvest than in 1907-08, there was naturally a fall in prices. But the drop was much less than might have been expected. As will be seen from the abstract given below, average prices continued greatly in excess of the average of previous years; and large profits have been made, particulary on rice, bajra, wheat, barley, gram and oilseeds, all of which were

good crops. With reserves depleted during the summer owing to the urgent demand of other Provinces, the desire of grain merchants to replenish their stocks was bound to keep up the rates for food-grains. Another important factor was the shortage of wheat in the principal wheat-growing countries which led to extensive forward purchases of wheat at rates of Rs. 3 per maund and upwards during the winter. The actual rates at harvest time were higher still, so that suppliers lost heavily by their speculation :

Crop.	Average normal harvest price.	Average harvest price in 1907-08.	Average harvest price in 1908-09.	Percentage above the normal in 1908-09.
	Rs. A	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
Rice	1 12	3 4	2 11	54
Wheat	2 3	3 14	3 9	63
Barley	1 8	2 15	2 7	63
Jowar	1 11	3 5	2 10	56
Bajra	1 15	3 9	3 1	58
Maize	1 11	3 3	2 14	70
Gram	1 13	3 14	2 11	48
Rapeseed	3 4	6 0	4 5	33
Sugar	3 9	5 0	4 9	28
Cotton (unginned)	4 10	6 1	5 10	22

Quinquennial cattle census.

91. The third quinquennial cattle census took place in February 1909.

The quinquennium cannot be regarded as having been favourable for stock in the Delhi division; but in the rest of the province there has been a period of great agricultural prosperity in which the more valuable classes of stock naturally increased.

There has been an increase under all heads of live stock except under goats, which, owing to a series of good harvests, are now being discarded as milch-animals in favour of cows and she-buffaloes. The latter have increased by 20 per cent., horses and ponies by 26 per cent., and mules by 52 per cent. If we omit the Delhi division, the figures for the Punjab are very striking and afford a reliable measure of the prosperity of the canal and well irrigated tracts.

Prices have naturally risen to a very high level with the enhanced cost of food stuffs, and it is probable that the outcry that cattle are scarce is really directed at the greatly enhanced rates. But the agriculturist can afford to pay more, and the census figures certainly do not indicate that there is any immediate danger of a shortage. High prices are giving a stimulus to breeding in the Salt Range and probably also in other tracts. The province seems to be accommodating itself to the altered conditions.

28. Weather and Crops.

General.

92. The monsoon broke on July 8th. From about the second week in July to the first week in September the current was directed to a much greater extent than usual to Upper India, with the result that rainfall during this period was unusually heavy in the Punjab. Extraordinarily heavy rain fell in the western districts at the beginning of September. The effects of this heavy rainfall was shown for weeks after in the unusually high humidities recorded in the western districts of the Punjab. But, while the September rainfall was in such large excess in the west, it was in defect in the east of

the province, especially in the Delhi division. The monsoon may be said to have terminated in the Punjab by the 10th September, which is within a few days of the normal date. For the whole monsoon period the rainfall was largely in excess, the percentage of excess ranging from 80 in Simla to 400 in the district of Montgomery.

The outturns per acre of jowar, maize and cotton were particularly affected by the excessive rain and were rather below normal. On the other hand, rice and sugarcane did extremely well, and bajra was average and on a very large area. Taking area and yield together for all crops, the results were quite satisfactory.

The winter of 1908-09 was unusually dry and the season's rainfall was in defect throughout the province, but there was abundance of soil moisture for rabi sowings and on the whole the spring crop weathered the winter drought very well, was good on wet land, and average to fair on dry land.

Distribution of crops.

93. The total area sown during the year was 29,298,247 acres. This is 4,773,837 acres more than in the previous year and 7 per cent. above the normal area The proportion of the autumn to the spring harvest was as 44 to 56. Variations in these proportions are connected with fluctuating climatic conditions. There is no material change in the area sown more than once in one harvest. The areas under wheat and spring oilseeds were respectively 8 and 9 per cent. above the normal, the gram area was greatly above the average, and the cultivation of 'toria,' a very remunerative crop, is developing rapidly.

Irrigated area.

94. Irrigation naturally fell off during the kharif, but the shortage in the winter rains caused canals and wells to be freely resorted to for cereals. Gram generally matured without assistance. The total area irrigated during the year is 10,432,197 acres, this being 360,334 acres less than last year. An increase of 566,942 acres under canal irrigation is set off by a decrease of 959,602 acres in the area irrigated from wells. Canals ran well and were much used in the early spring months. Masonry wells in use declined by 1,352 to 250,900, and non-masonry wells by 8,548 to 33,858.

29. Horticulture.

95. In the Lahore Agri-Horticultural Gardens great improvements have been effected. Nearly all the overgrown orchards have been converted into ornamental lawns, and the scheme for improving the supply of canal water has been completed. There has been a slight falling-off in garden income, which is attributed partly to the prevailing scarcity conditions and financial stringency which reduced the demand for plants, especially for Government departments. Labour was dear, temporary Punjabi labourers refusing Rs. 10 per mensem.

A most useful book on trees and shrubs suitable to the Punjab was published by the Superintendent; and his advisory visits to district board gardens have done a great deal to advance horticulture in the province.

30. Forests.

Area.

96. The area under the management of the Forest Department fell from 9,138·57 to 9,014·05 square miles, the decrease being mainly due to the retransfer of 64,836 acres of unclassed State forest to the district authorities. The areas to be transferred to the canal colonies have not yet been determined.

Settlements.

97. Forty-seven square miles of the Pir Mahal forest have been notified as reserved, and four forests are still under settlement in Lahore.

Demarcation.

98. The length of boundaries remaining to be demarcated has been reduced from 3,553 miles to 20 miles, all the reduction except 2 miles being due to the removal from the return of the boundaries of the undemarcated forests in Kangra which, being incapable of demarcation, should never have been shown in the return.

Survey working plans.

99. No survey operations were conducted during the year. Working-plans are required for 4,640 square miles, for about 3,843 miles of which no steps can be taken until it is decided what areas are required for the canal colonies.

Communications and buildings.

100. It is recognised that well-graded roads are necessary, as their cost is recovered from the increased sales consequent on their construction and from the higher rates realised for the produce sold. More rest-houses are found to facilitate and conduce to inspections, while the higher standard of comfort prevailing in all classes compels the erection of a better class of house. Unfortunately the means at command are altogether incommensurate with the results sought to be obtained, and the Department urges the need of a special establishment to carry on these works.

Forest offences.

101. The total cases of the year were 6,752 against 6,362 in 1907-08. The number of cases taken into court was 804, and 84·75 per cent. of convictions were obtained against 79·63 in the previous year. The number of cases compounded rose from 5,247 to 5,793. Except in Rawalpindi division, no success was achieved in reducing the number of cases so compounded.

Protection from fire.

102. The area which the Department attempted to protect rose by 4,637 to 611,479 acres; of this not 2 per cent. was burnt. The total number of fires fell from 368 to 197, and the area burnt from 21,065 to 11,820 acres. The total cost of protection rose from Rs. 6,324 to Rs. 7,325, mainly spent on protection by fire watchers, the best method as yet devised for the Punjab.

Protection from cattle.

103. 18·16 per cent. of the total area was entirely or partially closed to grazing. The number of animals impounded fell from 30,840 to 23,897.

Protection against injury from natural causes.

104. *Trametes pini*, a fungus which reduces blue pine to powder, is a serious pest in the Simla Hills. Fungus is attacking deodar in Kulu and in the Sutlej and Beas valleys. It is, however, not unlikely that these fungi have always been present in the forests without doing serious damage. Of the beetles attacking the Simla catchment area, two varieties have been successfully combated by the felling of trap trees.

Sylviculture.

105. A sylvicultural revival movement is at work in the Department: inquiries are on foot, cultural prescriptions are overhauled, working-plans altered, and experiments made as to the incidence of grazing compatible with natural reproduction. The most interesting experiment of the year is in connection with several species of Eucalyptus which are now being grown on 17 different sites at various heights, with a view to the ultimate afforestation of the hills from Kalka to Simla. Fruit culture experiments are also being undertaken in the Simla municipal forests.

Exploitation.

106. The total quantity of timber removed by departmental agency was only 4·53 per cent. of the total outturn, and was practically confined to Changa Manga. Purchasers removed 63·80 per cent. of the timber and 9·23 per cent. of the firewood.

The total outturn of timber shows a fall of 34·74 per cent., due mainly to the cessation of the demand for spruce trees in Kulu and to the stopping of departmental works in Kulu and Bashahr. There was a slight fall in the outturn of firewood.

Financial results.

107. The total revenue was Rs. 11,97,924, against Rs. 13,76,047 in 1907-08. The decrease is almost entirely owing to the sales of timber from Kulu and Bashahr, which fell by Rs. 1,66,307 and Rs. 35,025, respectively.

The actual expenditure of the year was Rs. 8,39,576 against Rs. 8,32,224 in 1907-08, and the actual cash surplus Rs. 3,58,348, while the average for the preceding quinquennium was Rs. 5,41,617. The Conservator has explained that the year's surplus was reduced by Rs. 1,34,555 paid to the Chamba State on account of the previous year's working, and taking this sum

into account, the year's surplus is only Rs. 48,714 below the quinquennial average. A further drop is not unlikely, when the stocks of timber on hand have been worked out, unless there is a corresponding rise in the value of forest produce.

31. Mines and Quarries.

Gold.

108. Gold washings in the districts of Ambála, Jhelum, Attock and Miánwáli produced 195 ounces of gold, worth Rs. 11,381.

Petroleum.

109. Four hundred and twenty gallons of petroleum were collected in Miánwáli district.

Alum.

110. Three thousand maunds of alum, worth Rs. 15,000, were produced in Miánwáli district.

Coal.

111. Dandot Colliery worked by the North-Western Railway yielded 36,465 tons.

Salt.

112. The amount of salt produced at the cis-Indus and Kálabágh salt mines and at the Sultánpur salt works was 3,133,704 maunds as compared with 2,942,648 maunds in the previous year.

32. Manufactures.

Large industries.

113. The total number of factories increased from 253 to 264. During the year 45, mostly ginning factories, were closed owing to the shortage of cotton. Multán and Muzaffargarh were forced by the cotton crisis to form a factory pool. Each factory in the two districts paid a certain percentage per maund of cotton purchased into the common pool, which was divided among the factories according to the number of gins specifically allotted to each in the agreement.

Mainly on account of this depression in cotton-ginning, the number of persons employed in all factories fell from 27,096 to 25,689, the decrease being distributed among all classes of operatives.

General condition of factories.

114. Inspections were somewhat more frequent than last year, 104 factories being visited more than twice as against 68 then. The total number of factories inspected was also higher, 209 against 194. The spasmodic working of many factories hampers the efforts of inspecting officers. Moreover, managers, if they have reason to anticipate an inspection, have a habit of closing their factories for the day, and it is often only through a surprise visit that a satisfactory inspection can be made. The sanitary conditions are generally reported as satisfactory, though defects in latrine accommodation are noted in a number of factories. The health of the operatives in all districts is reported as generally good.

On the suggestion of the Government of India rules were framed during the year to provide for the identification of children working in factories. During the course of the year printed instructions as to the inspection of factories were issued by Government to all Inspectors, and will, it is hoped, lead to more thorough and effective inspections than in the past. Partly no doubt as a result of these instructions, greater activity than heretofore has been shown in the prosecution of offences. There were 285 accidents in 1908 as compared with 251 in 1907. Of these, 25 were serious and 6 fatal.

Wire and Tinsel Industry.

115. An instructive monograph on the Wire and Tinsel industry in the Punjab has been written by Mr. E. Burdon, Assistant Commissioner. It shows that this ancient industry is said to have till recently employed a lakh of workers in Delhi and its neighbourhood alone, that its craftsmen in Lahore and Delhi protected themselves by uniting in guilds under municipal supervision, and that these guilds, paralysed by foreign competition and disorganised by internal dissensions, have now disappeared.

The manufacture of drawn-wire in the province has decreased. As regards the manufacture of tinsel, the old processes still exist, but to a large extent the work is done with foreign material. Real and imitation gold and silver tinsel are imported in large quantities, chiefly from Germany. Imitation tinsel is cheap and very showy, and though it tarnishes readily, it is in great demand. There is still, however, sufficient work for the craftsmen who twist flattened gold and silver wire on silk thread, and for the women who weave this flattened wire into ribbon and lace.

33. Trade.

Total trade.

116. The total trade by rail and river of the province in each of the past three years, excluding animals and treasure, is shown in the subjoined table :—

Years.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value, in rupees.	Maunds.	Value, in rupees.
1906-07	28,696,430	22,37,04,458	54,837,968	21,88,30,406
1907-08	40,301,583	25,91,77,359	62,943,875	28,56,00,964
1908-09	42,190,762	24,24,69,842	24,393,143	15,30,95,643

There is shrinkage in both imports and exports except in regard to the weight of the former, and the increase here is almost wholly explained by the inclusion of timber imported by river from Kashmir which was formerly shown in the returns of external trade. The low value of imports as compared with their weight is explained by this item coupled with the decreased demand for silver coin and bullion, the increasing import of coal at lower prices, and the large import of millet to replenish stocks.

The striking decrease in exports is mainly due to the depression in the grain trade. Bulky exports, such as wheat, raw cotton, pulse and millet fell off greatly. There were notable increases in the export of hides and silver coin ; and as prices ruled high, the value of exports is abnormally high compared with their weight.

River-borne trade.

117. The following comparative table gives the figures of river-borne trade for the past three years :—

Years.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value, in rupees.	Maunds.	Value, in rupees.
1906-07	166,090	11,38,647	1,617,683	49,78,591
1907-08	213,610	16,87,021	2,375,937	93,81,180
1908-09	199,180	13,96,450	1,147,389	48,75,604

The river-borne trade (in which the timber floated down from Kashmir has not been included) partakes of the general shrinkage, imports having decreased by 14,000 maunds in weight and 3 lakhs of rupees in value, and exports by 12,29,000 maunds and 45 lakhs. Grain and pulse

make up about half the exports, whereas last year they constituted three-fourths. Exports are now very much what they were ten years ago, while imports are higher.

118. The table given below is interesting as showing the falling-off due to bad harvests :— Trade in grain.

Years.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value, in rupees.	Maunds.	Value, in rupees.
1906-07	1,218,101	46,47,519	44,612,716	11,99,50,457
1907-08	2,020,288	49,74,723	52,421,281	18,80,85,332
1908-09	3,012,507	1,31,09,718	15,126,225	6,50,94,770

The value of imports increased by 162 per cent., whereas the value of exports fell by 189 per cent.; indeed the province exported only five times as much grain and pulse as it imported, instead of 25 or 35 times as is usual in a good year.

The export trade in food-grains was only 42 per cent of the whole export trade against 66 per cent. in the previous year; but even so the bulk of exports of grain and pulse over imports equalled in value twice the land revenue demand.

119. The value of animals imported and exported fell by about Rs. 70,000 and Rs. 1,18,000 respectively. Imported treasure fell by about 3½ crores, whereas exports of treasure rose by almost 1 crore. Exports of silver coin to the United Provinces, Calcutta and Bombay account for 97 per cent. of the total export of treasure. Animals and treasure.

120. In imports the largest increases have been in apparel (12 lakhs of rupees), gram and pulse (10 lakhs), jowar and bajra (12 lakhs), locomotives (11 lakhs), unwrought timber (36 lakhs), medicinal preparations (29 lakhs), and coal and coke (2 million maunds). Against "apparel" must be set off an increase of 9 lakhs in the exports. The severe epidemic of malaria which prevailed in the autumn must largely account for the increase in "medicinal preparations," the growing requirements of the railways for that in "locomotives", and "coal and coke." Imports.

The most noticeable decreases are in cotton piece-goods, European and Indian, and silk piece-goods (27, 36 and 22 lakhs, respectively), railway plant and rolling-stock (55 lakhs), gunny bags and cloth (71 lakhs), silver coin (293 lakhs), and silver bullion (40 lakhs).

Apart from the general diminution of the purchasing powers of the community owing to bad seasons, the decline in "cotton piece-goods" and "silver bullion" may be ascribed to the entire cessation of Hindu marriages owing to the inauspicious character of the year, that in "railway plant and rolling-stock"—though, as previously noted, there has been an increase in locomotives—to the fact that no new lines were opened during the year, and that in "gunny bags and cloth" and "silver coin" to the great shrinkage in exports of grain and other commodities.

Exports.

121. In exports the most notable increases are in "hides and skins" (11 lakhs of rupees), "other oilseeds" (16 lakhs) and "silver coin" (95 lakhs). The partial recovery of the trade in hides and skins may be attributed to a lowering of the rates for carriage on the North-Western Railway.

The chief decreases in exports are in "raw cotton" (75 lakhs of rupees), gram and pulse (214 lakhs), jowar and bajra (47 lakhs), wheat (752 lakhs), "other grains" (187 lakhs), rape and mustard seed (63 lakhs), wheat flour (17 lakhs) and husked rice (11 lakhs), all, it will be seen, agricultural products.

Cotton was the one kharif crop that was a failure. A large proportion of the jowar, bajra and rice goes to the United Provinces and Rájpútána and Central India, and the restoration of normal conditions in those tracts lessened the demand. For the other decreases the poor rabi, the improved conditions aforesaid, and the decline in shipments to Europe are responsible. Only 4,700,000 maunds of wheat, for instance, were exported to Karáchi in place of 22,500,000 in the year before.

Distribution of trade.

122. Of the external blocks, Karachi's share in the total import remains nearly the same as before, *viz.*, 40 per cent., but its share in the exports has decreased from 43 to 35. The port of Bombay takes 15 per cent. of the imports as against 16 last year; its share of the exports is still 7 per cent. Calcutta's share in the imports has risen from 9 to 10 per cent., and in the exports from 5 to 9. The only other notable variations are an increase in the United Provinces' share of the imports from 20 to 22 per cent., and a decrease in their share of the exports from 32 to 27, and rises from 3 to 5 and 4 to 8 in the shares in the exports taken by Sind and British Balúchistán and by Rájpútána and Central India, respectively.

Trade with trans-frontier countries.

Trade routes.

123. This year, for the first time, the returns differentiate trade by routes as well as by countries. The trade with Southern and Western Afghánistán, which is registered at the Kharr Border police post is reported to follow two routes; for the trade with Ladákh, and through Ladákh; two routes are shewn, and for Chinese Tibet four routes, which pass through country not yet surveyed. The information available as to the various routes is for the present somewhat vague, and probably not altogether accurate, but fresh information is being collected.

Afghanistan trade.

124. The trade with Southern and Western Afghánistán is insignificant. The import figures exhibit little variation in the last three years. As compared with 1906-07, the exports show a marked falling-off, especially in European piece-goods, but little confidence can be placed in the returns from this post during past seasons.

Trade with Ladakh.

125. In the trade with Ladákh there has, since last year, been a decrease of 1½ lakhs of rupees in the value of imports, and exports have fallen from a total value of Rs. 1,58,587 to Rs. 1,43,697. The export figures are the lowest known for many years. Poor harvests in the Punjab partly account, no doubt, for the large falling-off in grain. The only satisfactory item is an increase in European piece-goods from 284 to 426 maunds.

Trade with Chinese Tibet.

126. In the trade with Chinese Tibet there was an increase in the imports of 7 per cent. in weight and 28 per cent. in value as compared with last year. Borax shows an increase of 492 maunds which would have been still greater had last year's returns been correct, and wool exhibits a considerable rise. This wool trade is the most important branch of the imports, accounting for more than half the total value. Most of the import trade is harassed by the levy of heavy duties by the Tibetan authorities. The export figures, exclusive of treasure, show a decrease of 19 per cent., due partly to the

poor grain trade and to the washing away of the bridge on the Shipki-Morang route.

Measures for facilitating trade.

127. During the year a bonded warehouse has been established at Hoshiárpur where traders with merchandise for Central Asia can break bulk and have their goods checked and passed for refund at Leh of the customs duty paid at the port of disembarkation. Hitherto only goods that had passed through and been checked at Srinagar have been entitled to such refund. Rules for the procedure to be followed have been published and have been circulated, in a summarised form, among persons interested in the trade, and the warehouse was opened on December 1st.

The Tibetan traffic on the southern routes will be much facilitated by the reconstruction of a wire suspension bridge over the Sutlej at Poo in the Bashahr State, which is being undertaken by the Public Works Department.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number of companies.

128. The number of companies with share capital has risen from 96 to 128. Forty-two new companies, of which twelve were banking, and three insurance, companies were registered, and ten became defunct during the year.

Capital.

129. The nominal capital of all companies has risen by 44 per cent. from 336 lakhs to 485 lakhs, and the paid-up capital by 7 per cent. from 139 lakhs to 149 lakhs. Paid-up capital is 31 per cent. of the nominal capital against 41 per cent. in the previous year. It would appear, thererore, that with an increase in numbers and capital, there has not been a corresponding improvement in financial stability.

34. Public Works.

Total expenditure.

130. The total outlay of the year on public works in the Buildings and Roads Branch was over 51 lakhs.

Imperial civil works.

131. Over 3¾ lakhs was expended on Imperial civil works, the most important of which were the Accountant-General's office at Lahore and the new Monotype Press building at Simla.

Provincial civil works.

132. The expenditure on Provincial civil works amounted to nearly 16 lakhs on works and over 14 lakhs on repairs.

The main works that were undertaken were the enlargement of Barnes Court, Simla; the new district court at Dharmsála; tahsil buildings at Kángra; the installation of electric fans in the Civil Secretariat and new Public Works Department offices at Lahore; a new boarding-house for the Government High School, Simla; extension of the Chemical Laboratory, Government College, Lahore; additions and alterations to the Lunatic Asylum, Lahore; a judicial lock-up at Sargodha; improvements to the three Central Jails and seven District Jails; and the building of eleven police stations. Good progress was made with the construction of the College, and the main building and Chemistry Block were nearly completed, the expenditure on these being Rs. 2,38,676.

Roads.

133. The provincial outlay on new roads amounted to nearly 4 lakhs and on repairs to over 10 lakhs. Good progress has again been made on the construction of the new feeder roads: and, in accordance with the proposals of the Improvement Committee of 1907, three new roads have been put in hand at Simla.

Famine relief works.

134. No expenditure was incurred during the year on famine, but a sum of Rs. 5,000 was spent on the purchase of tools and plant.

Dera Ghazi Khan protective works.

135. A "cut" over 2 miles long was made through an island in the river Indus, somewhat to the north of the threatened town of Dera Gházi Khan, in the hope that the main stream would enter this cut and so gradually scour it out and leave the right bank of the river.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

136. The works classified under this head are mainly those of a local character connected with sanitary improvements in towns or with private undertakings, which for convenience are carried out by the Public Works Department. The most important of these which were completed during the year were the Water-Works of Ludhiána and the drainage systems of the following cities:—Delhi, Ráwalpindi, Multán and part of Amritsar.

Railways.

North-Western State Railway system.

137. Railways were exceedingly unprofitable in 1908. The gross earnings of the North-Western State Railway system fell by 151¼ lakhs or over one million pounds sterling. At the same time the proportion of working expenses to earnings rose from 51·9 to 79·8 per cent., so that the net earnings of the system were only 126¾ lakhs. Of this, the North-Western Railway proper earned little more than 90 lakhs, the lowest figure touched for twenty years. As a result, the loss to the State was over 165 lakhs of rupees on the year.

The main factors in the unprecedented rise of working expenses fall under the heads of improvement of railway facilities, increase in the price of coal, the raising of salaries due to the rise in the cost of living, and the grant of grain compensation in time of scarcity.

Passenger and goods traffic.

138. The number of passengers carried rose by nearly one million to over 40 millions; and the quantity of goods and minerals carried rose to 8½ million tons.

Surveys.

139. Surveys were made of 209·46 miles on the 5 feet 6 inches gauge, and of over 90 miles on the 2 feet 6 inches gauge.

Accidents.

140. There were two serious train accidents during the year.

Damages by floods and rainfall.

141. Heavy rains and floods in August and September caused many breaches, where through traffic was entirely stopped for periods of from 2 to 14 days.

35. Irrigation.

General.

142. The direct receipts of the Irrigation Department during the year were Rs. 1,93,47,338, and the direct expenditure Rs. 1,85,52,628, the latter being divided into capital Rs. 1,02,64,579 and working expenses Rs. 82,88,049. In addition to direct receipts, the indirect revenue credited to the canals on account of enhanced land revenue, etc., was Rs. 32,51,276. The total area irrigated, 6,749,607 acres, was about 200,000 acres in excess of the average of the preceding three years. Matters of interest relating to the different canals are noticed below.

Western Jumna Canal.

143. The canal ran for eleven months; it was closed during the month of August 1908 owing to slack demand. The area irrigated for spring crops was less than that of the two previous triennia owing to insufficient supplies in the river. The net income of the year amounted to 13½ lakhs, equivalent to 7·81 per cent. on the capital outlay, as compared with 20 lakhs and 11·63 per cent. respectively of the previous year. The fall in percentage is due to decrease in area irrigated. The area irrigated was 654,390 acres, which is over 163,000 acres less than the maximum area proposed to be irrigated on this canal.

144. The early advent of the rains in June 1908 checked demand until the close of September, and the river was very low in March. The total area irrigated was 919,199 acres against 1,189,243 acres in the previous year. Sirhind Canal.

The profit earned on the British branches was Rs. 20½ lakhs equivalent to almost 8¼ per cent. on capital invested.

145. After two bad crops there was a deficiency of fodder for cattle, and this accounts to a great extent for the heavy early sowings prior to the arrival of the monsoon. A further reason is to be found in the fact that the farmer was prompt to take advantage of the prevailing high prices for raw cotton to increase his sowings of that crop. On the whole the return to Government on the year's operations was excellent. Upper Bari Doab Canal.

The total area irrigated was 1,039,477 acres. The net income of the year amounted to over 24 lakhs, and yielded 11·64 per cent. on the capital invested. In connection with the execution of works, the activity of the North-Western Railway in doubling its main line between Amritsar and Ambála and the construction of the Patti-Kasúr Branch and of the Sutlej Valley lines have tended to interfere with canal progress, to raise market rates appreciably, and to bring the question of labour supply to a somewhat acute stage. So long as these Railway lines are under construction the output of work from canal divisions will be limited.

146. The irrigated area of matured crops was almost 2 million acres, and the net revenue of the year almost 64 lakhs, equivalent to a percentage of 22·56 on the capital invested. Lower Chenab Canal.

147. The net area irrigated was over 600,000 acres, and the net revenue over 14 lakhs, representing 8·96 per cent. on the capital invested. Much attention was paid by the canal establishment to the efficient distribution of the canal supply and to the remodelling of channels. The quality of the land in those tracts in the lower part of the canal, where 'reh' and 'kallar' soil are met, has improved steadily as a result of the application of canal water. Lower Jhelum Canal.

148. The year's operations resulted in a profit of 2 lakhs, equivalent to a return of 11·49 per cent. on the capital outlay, and the area irrigated shows an increase of some 150,000 acres over the previous year. Upper Sutlej Inundation Canals.

149. The Sidhnai and its three subsidiary canals were in flow 100 days during the year and irrigated 190,000 acres. The year was financially an unfavourable one, owing to the small area irrigated in the previous rabi. The net profit was Rs. 51,068, equivalent to 3·88 per cent. on the capital outlay, against a profit of 4 lakhs, equivalent to 30·65 per cent., for the preceding year. Sidhnai Canal.

150. Heavy erosion occurred in July and August 1908 at Dera Gházi Khan. The stone embankment and 2 miles of the Kasturi Canal were washed away, together with a portion of the city. The erosion was so rapid that new embankments could not be made and the water spread over the district south of the Sohan Canal. Working expenses were high on account of this damage, and the year's working resulted in a loss of Rs. 74,725. Indus Inundation Canals.

151. Owing to excessive rain and an outbreak of malaria, labour could not be procured till the end of November. An extraordinary flood in February 1909 caused damage to the extent of Rs. 25,000. The total outlay on the canal during the year was over 49½ lakhs. Upper Chenab Canal.

152. After protracted discussion of the merits of various designs most likely to meet the requirements of the torrents, the discharges of which were found greatly to exceed the project provision, a good start has been made on the works; the outlay during the year was nearly 36 lakhs. Upper Jhelum Canal.

Lower Bari Doab Canal.

153. The site for the proposed Ravi syphon was decided on in December 1908, and the buildings at the site and the railway line from Chánga Mánga were pushed forward very vigorously in order to protect the site before the arrival of floods. The expenditure amounted to 15 lakhs.

Minor Irrigation works.

154. The *Shahpur (Imperial) Canals* earned 15·15 per cent., and the area irrigated was the largest since 1903-04. The *Ghaggar Inundation Canals* had an unprofitable year, as the river ran dry in September 1908. The *Chenab Inundation Canals* worked well, earning nearly a lakh. The area irrigated by the *Muzaffargarh Inundation Canals* shows an improvement on the two previous triennia. The *Shahpur (Provincial) Canals* and the *Ravi Inundation Canals* enjoyed a prosperous year, but the *Rangoi Canal* ran for only 35 days.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications:—

(*a*)—DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1908.

Canal Revenue.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the triennial period 1905-06 to 1907-08.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab for the year 1908-09.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1908-09.

Stamps.—Note on the Stamp statements of the Punjab for the year 1908-09.

Income Tax.—Report on the Income Tax Administration of the Punjab during the year 1908-09.

Forests.—Punjab Forest Administration Report for 1908-09.

Local Funds.—District Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1908 09.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1908 09.

(*b*)—STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, PART IV (*b*)—FINANCE AND REVENUE.

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

General.

155. In the following statements for the year ending March 31st, 1909, the income and expenditure of the Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, Military expenditure and capital expenditure on Canals are omitted.

Revenue.

156. The revenue raised in the Province during 1908-09 is made up as follows, last year's figures being quoted for comparison :—

SOURCES OF REVENUE.	1907-08.	1908-09.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Land Revenue	2,27·88	2,20·74
Irrigation (including land revenue due to canals)	2,19·71	2,30·06
Salt	33·88	35·09
Stamps	42·79	46·81
Excise	42·15	47·60
Income Tax	13·70	14·16
Forest	14·57	12·89
Registration	2·77	3·14
Tributes	2·76	2·84
Interest	3·33	3·24
Law and Justice—Courts	3·35	4·02
Jails	1·83	2·00
Police	5·56	5·78
Education	2·95	3·03
Civil Works	3·51	6·31
All other items	8·17	13·98
TOTAL RECEIPTS	6,28·91	6,51·69

NOTE.—Transactions of incorporated local funds omitted in consequence of their exclusion from public accounts.

Expenditure.

157. The expenditure excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, Local Fund expenditure and capital expenditure on Canals, amounted to Rs. 41,270 lakhs in 1908-09. The detailed items, with corresponding figures for the previous year, are given below :—

Departments.	1907-08.	1908-09.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Irrigation	82·34	84·23
Public Works	64·46	57·03
Revenue	48·11	49·48
Police	52·34	55·03
Law and Justice	37·24	37·47
Jails	10·32	12·30
Medical	13·39	14·04
Education	17·77	22·24
General Administration	13·40	13·54
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	15·59	16·07
Forests	11·77	8·52
Political	6·42	6·32
Stationery and Printing	6·65	6·73
Scientific and other Minor Departments	4·59	6·07
Salt	4·09	4·22
All other items	17·24	19·41
Total	*4,05·72	4,12·70

*Local transactions included last year, but now omitted to allow of a comparison with the figures of the year under report.

Abstract of income and expenditure.

158. The following is an abstract of the gross income and expenditure for 1908-09 as recorded in the books of the Accountant-General, Punjab :—

	Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	Lakhs of rupees.					
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.
Revenue and expenditure	1,66·72	3,22·89	4,89·61	23·26	3,39·26	3,62·52
Debt and remittance heads	...	...	33,96·84	...	...	35,85·23
Total	1,66·72	3,22·89	38,86·45	23·26	3,39·26	39,47·75
Opening balance	...	...	1,46·62	Closing balance		85·32
Grand Total	...	...	40,33·07	...	...	40,33·07

37. Land Revenue.

159. The land revenue collections for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1908 have been reviewed in chapter II. Including collections on account of previous years, they amounted to Rs. 1,66,11,439 fixed, Rs. 39,52,213 fluctuating and Rs. 11,22,785 miscellaneous land revenue—total Rs. 2,16,86,437.

38. Irrigation.

160. The total capital invested up to the end of 1908-09 on Major Works amounted to 1,128 lakhs of rupees, of which 4 lakhs were invested during the current year. The income from all sources was 211 lakhs which, after deducting working expenses and interest charges, gives a net profit of 101·5 lakhs compared with 94·2 lakhs in the previous year. The net profit on unproductive Minor Works dropped from 6 to 3½ lakhs. The favourable rainfall during the monsoon enabled cultivators to make extensive sowings on unirrigated tracts for the autumn crops. The agricultural prostration due to malaria and the saturation of the soil were factors tending to prevent the usual demand for canal water from October to December for rabi sowings; but when the winter drought was established there was a rush for water to mature irrigated crops, and no water to spare for others.

39. Opium and Excise Revenue.

161. The income of the province from excise rose remarkably. It is now 47½ lakhs or nearly one-quarter of the fixed land revenue demand. In fact it has nearly doubled in 7 years.

The increase in the excise revenue was not due to a general increase in sales. The only exciseable articles of which a larger quantity was retailed than in 1907-08 were imported spirits and opium. Retail sales of distillery-made country spirit, *charas* and *bhang*, decreased by 15·14 and 6 per cent., respectively. The increase in the excise revenue occurs almost entirely under the head of vend license fees. The income from this source rose from 19½ to over 23½ lakhs. This was due to highly speculative bidding, regarding the suppression of which orders were issued subsequently.

The expenditure of the year increased from Rs. 1,06,286 to Rs. 1,17,009,—a rise of 10·1 per cent.

Excise on liquor yielded 32½ lakhs against 28¾ lakhs in 1907-08, vend fees accounting for Rs. 2,30,114 of the difference. This increase was realised notwithstanding that the number of shops for retail vend was reduced by 32. There is now in the Punjab one retail shop for 21,850 persons as compared with one for 21,126 in 1907-08. The fall in the consumption of country spirits is probably due to a combination of causes. The ban on Hindu marriages, the dearness of food-grains which reduced the purchasing power of the non-agricultural population, malaria possibly, the abatement of plague for which alcohol is a popular remedy, and, lastly, the increase in illicit distillation—all these causes may with reason be adduced to account for the statistical falling off in consumption. The experiment of selling liquor cheap on fixed fee licenses in selected districts with a view to combating illicit distillation has not had very encouraging results, and is to expire on 31st March 1910.

Excise revenue in respect of opium and its preparations rose from Rs. 7,73,806 in 1907-08 to Rs. 8,88,773. The number of licensed shops has decreased from 981 to 958, a large proportion (18) of this decrease being in Multán district. The increased revenue was due to higher prices paid for licenses. The cultivation of poppy for opium has now been prohibited throughout the British Punjab, and the darbars of Native States in the Punjab plains are being moved to put a stop to the production of opium. This stoppage of poppy cultivation has fortunately synchronized with a notable enhancement in the profits of wheat cultivation. Wheat is in many cases

considered the more paying crop. The import of Malwa opium was completely stopped during the year, and there seems to be no doubt that excise opium is making its way into the favour of the people. Afghan opium is still considered a superior article, and the high prices of this and Hill States opium have helped to increase the consumption of excise opium. The total amount of opium consumed in the Province does not show any considerable variation from last year's figures.

Taxes on hemp drugs yielded Rs. 6,17,044, or Rs. 62,884 more than in 1907-08. The number of shops for their sale decreased from 708 to 684 and recorded consumption fell very considerably. Of *charas* 4,256 seers less and of *bhang* 4,658 seers less were sold than in 1907-08,—a decrease, taking both together, of nearly 8 per cent. As in the cases of liquor and opium, vend licenses for the sale of hemp drugs yielded an increased revenue.

Illicit distillation.

162. Among the Jats of the Central Punjab defiance of the excise law is so widespread that it is now necessary to enforce upon village headmen and zaildars their responsibility for permitting illicit distillation in their villages, and to confront the offenders with penalties of a really deterrent character. The penal clauses of the Excise law will come under review in connection with the new Excise Bill, the draft of which is awaited by the Local Government.

40. Salt Revenue.

163. The gross revenue of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department was 113½ lakhs, or over 1 lakh more than in 1907-08. No change was made in the prices at which salt manufactured on behalf of Government was sold to the public during the year. Consumers continue to reap the full benefit of the reduction in duty.

The sales during the year in the Cis-Indus and Kálabágh Mines Division, 3,202,456 maunds, exceeded last year's sales by 4 per cent. They have increased by 33 per cent. in the last 8 years. The sales at the Khewra depôt were 85·53 per cent. of the total sales of the whole division, as compared with 84·64 per cent. in 1907-08. The sales and issues are the highest on record.

Owing to rumours of a further reduction in, or the total abolition of, the duty, sales were dull till the end of October 1908, but later the demand was brisk. Great difficulty was experienced in procuring labour from September to November owing to sickness.

Sales of salt from the mines in Mandi State declined slightly, and there is a continued decrease in demand for Sultánpur manufactured salt, the sales of which fell off about 15 per cent.

41. Stamp Revenue.

164. The present is not a year of a triennial report. The annual statements, however, show a rise of nearly 4 lakhs in the net receipts: this is divided in the proportion of two to one between the Court Fees Act and the Stamp Act. The former is generally attributed to a continuance of the increased litigation which commenced in 1907 after the expiry of the period of extension granted by the Punjab Loans Limitation Act of 1904: the latter is ascribed to the execution of a larger number of deeds and bonds owing to scarcity conditi ons.

42. Assessed Taxes.

165. This is not a triennial report year for Assessed Taxes. The total net collections were over 14 lakhs compared with 13½ lakhs in the previous year. The number of assessees rose by 4 per cent.; and the incidence per head is now nearly Rs. 58. Two-thirds of the net collections were from incomes over Rs. 2,000.

The Income Tax Manual was almost ready for issue at the end of the year.

43. Forest Revenue.

[Forest revenue and expenditure have already been noticed in Chapter IV.]

44. Provincial Revenue.

166. The income and expenditure under the Provincial section of accounts during the past year have been as follows :—

Year.	Opening balance.	Income.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1906-07	60,67,740	3,11,94,277	3,18,55,491	54,06,526
1907-08	54,06,526	3,09,21,496	3,33,30,314	29,97,708
1908-09	*30,51,002	3,23,02,485	3,38,79,467	14,74,020

*This includes Rs. 53,294 on account of the closing balance of the 'Copying Agency Fund' on 31st March 1908, provincialised during 1908-09.

The closing balance of the year 1908-09 included 13½ lakhs out of the 20 lakhs contributed from Imperial revenues for the extension and improvement of Simla. The noticeable features in the accounts of the year 1908-09 are (1) the grant, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the assumption of the government of India by the Crown, of a special bonus equal to a week's pay to all Government servants in permanent employ drawing Rs. 50 or less in January 1909, and (2) the grant of grain compensation to whole-time servants on a pay of Rs. 30 per mensem and less, instead of on Rs. 16 per mensem and under as formerly.

The revenue classed as Provincial consists of a share of the receipts of the general revenues, the principal heads of which have been discussed above. Provincial rates on land include the local rate levied under the District Boards Act, 1883, which is noticed in the following section.

45. Local Funds.

Balance.

167. The closing balances on the 31st March 1909 were Rs. 16,95,000 against Rs. 22,63,000 in the previous year. Balances fell below the prescribed minimum in the case of Amritsar, Siálkot, Attock and Jullundur. Five districts have balances each exceeding 1⅓ lakhs. The Gurgaon district board was the only board in debt to Government at the close of the year.

Income and expenditure.

168. Under the head *Contributions* expenditure rose from Rs. 1,48,000 to Rs. 6,69,000, an increase of Rs. 5,21,000 as against an increase of Rs. 2,85,000 on the reverse side of the account. This is attributed to all contributions to Government being shown directly as expenditure, instead of being partially deducted from the various grants as was formerly the case.

Income also increased under *Provincial Rates, School Fees, Education, Medical* and *Police.*

There were increases of expenditure on *Education* (chiefly on primary schools), *Hospitals and Dispensaries,* and on *Scientific and other Minor Departments* (mainly owing to an increase in bull and stallion charges.)

Receipts under the head of *Civil Works* fell from Rs. 5,18,000 to Rs. 4,64,000, mainly due to the decrease in the sale of buildings and other property; expenditure fell from Rs. 22,85,000 to Rs. 21,45,000, a decrease of Rs. 1,40,000 principally on account of want of funds.

46. Municipal Funds.

Balances.

169. The balance of all the municipalities at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 14,49,883 in cash and Rs. 1,17,600 in investments.

Income.

170. The aggregate income of the municipalities of the province was Rs. 57,07,000, the smallest figure since 1905-06. Octroi accounted mainly for the decrease, and the explanation has already been given in dealing with that tax in section 25. Other taxation brought in Rs. 4,57,000 of the total, a considerably larger sum than ever before. The re-assessment of properties in Simla and Delhi for the house-tax along with better supervision over collections is the main reason of this increase.

The revenue derived from municipal property, from medical institutions, slaughter-houses and license fees have all considerably increased, which is specially satisfactory considering the stagnation shown by the octroi returns.

Expenditure

171. *Municipal expenditure* has reached a higher limit than at any time since 1902. Public safety, drainage and conservancy, medical relief and public buildings all have contributed to swell the total.

The aggregate cost of municipal administration and collection of taxes has been less than at any time since 1905-06, but the causes are mostly of a local or temporary character, and the decrease will possibly not be maintained for long.

Public Safety has involved a greatly increased expenditure, mainly owing to the construction of new police stations at Simla and Lyallpur. Expenditure on *Drainage and Conservancy* has been swelled by the inclusion of two lakhs on account of the cost of the Ludhiána water-works.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Census.—Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier, 1901, by H. A. Rose, I.C.S.

Births and Deaths.— } Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Pro-
Sanitation.— } ceedings of the Sanitary Board for the year 1908.

Emigration.—Census Report, as above.

Medical Relief.— { Notes on the Annual Statements of the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the Punjab for the year 1908.
Report of the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, for the year 1908.
Triennial Report on the working of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the period 1906-08.
Report of the Chemical Examiner to Government, Punjab, for the year 1908.

Vaccination.—Notes on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1908-09.

And in Statistics of British India, Part V.

47. Details of Census.

(See pages 153—160 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.)

48. Births and Deaths.

172. The birth-rate rose from 40·8 to 41·8 per mille and is but little below the average of the previous decade, while it is considerably above the average for British India. **Birth-rate.**

173. The death-rate, 50·73 per mille, though less than in 1907, when it stood at 62·1 per mille, is high for the Punjab, and as much as 17·5 per mille above the average of British India for the previous decade. The death-rate in the Punjab has exceeded the birth-rate during 8 out of the past 9 years by 6·8 per mille on an average. **Death-rate.**

174. Fevers were by far the most important cause of the very high mortality recorded in the Punjab during 1908. The death-rate from fevers rose to 34·66, which has only twice been exceeded—in 1890 and 1892, when it was 38·05 and 34·83 respectively. Both these years were marked by great scarcity, coupled with a heavy monsoon rainfall. In the autumn of 1908 strenuous efforts were made to carry through the distribution of quinine to the very homes of the people. Itinerating dispensaries were organized. The services of the plague staff, of school masters, native druggists, village headmen and Government officials were taken full advantage of. Nevertheless, during the last four months of 1908 there were no less than 460,000 deaths from fever. The outbreak of malaria affected every district, the fever was everywhere of a severe type, and a serious feature was the high mortality (66·48 per mille) among children under 10. The fever death-rate of infants under 1 was 202·26 per mille, and the excess of the female death-rate over the male death-rate at all ages was most marked. It is worthy of note that children under 5 years and old people over 60 years suffer much more severely from fevers than they do from plague. **Fevers.**

The death-rate due to plague declined from 30·3 to 1·5 per mille, *i.e.*, by over 95 per cent. Measures continue to be taken though little popular interest is aroused. Since its first invasion up to the end of 1908 plague has more than decimated the province, but it seems not unlikely that it is now working itself out.

Cholera was unusually prevalent during the year, the deaths amounting to 0·61 per mille, very nearly three times as high as the rate for the past five years. The outbreak of cholera was primarily traceable to the fairs held at Katás and Jowálámukhi. A further outbreak was traced to a pilgrim returning from Hardwár.

Small-pox shows a mortality of 28,652, or a death-rate of 1·42 per mille, which is more than double the quinquennial average of 0·54. It is noticeable that in the towns to which the provisions of the compulsory Vaccination Act have been extended the death-rate was 1·71, as contrasted with 2·44 in those in which the Act is not in force. Now that vaccination has been placed in the hands of local bodies, it may be hoped that this prophylactic will become more popular.

49. Emigration and Immigration.

[There is nothing to report under this heading.]

50. Medical Relief.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

175. The total number of hospitals and dispensaries is now 438 as compared with 425 last year.

Patients.

176. The number of patients rose from 3,782,973 in 1907 to 4,582,649 in 1908. A striking feature is the much larger number of Muhammadan children attending, even in districts in which adult Hindus are greatly in excess of adult Muhammadan patients. Selected operations fell slightly, but the total number of surgical operations rose from 189,995 to 199,410.

The number of beds maintained was 3,840 (2,341 for males and 1,499 for females) against 3,814 in 1907. Judged by the daily average number of patients, the accommodation in most hospitals and dispensaries would appear adequate.

There can be no doubt about the popularity of the institutions maintained by local bodies ; the question appears to be rather how to exclude from their benefit well-to-do persons able to pay a private practitioner. This remark does not, however, apply to outlying dispensaries, which are not ordinarily over-taxed as regards the numbers applying for relief ; moreover, the private practitioner is non-existent in rural areas, and the requirement is not likely to be supplied for many years to come, until medical men crowd each other out of the large cities.

Excellent work is done in the hospitals in charge of lady doctors, and they are greatly appreciated by the people. Police hospitals are being steadily improved and great attention is bestowed on the welfare of the patients in them.

Leper Asylums.

177. There are five leper asylums in the province, at which 580 persons were treated during the year.

Pasteur Institute.

178. The increased popularity of this institution is apparent from the number of patients, the improved results obtained, and the flourishing financial condition of the institution. In 1908 amongst 1,389 persons who underwent anti-rabic treatment the percentage of failures was only 0·36, the lowest figure reached in the history of the Institute. Further, it is evident that the opening of the new institute at Coonoor has not affected the total number of patients seeking anti-rabic inoculation at Kasauli.

Lunatic Asylum.

179. During the triennium under report the daily average rose gradually, showing that the popularity of the institution continues to increase. The new hospital to accommodate 150 patients was practically ready at the close of 1908, and it is proposed to use the existing hospital for the accommodation of convalescents. When this is done, a considerable improvement in the segregation of criminal lunatics will thus be effected.

Chemical Examiner.

180. The number of cases and articles submitted for analysis shows a considerable increase as compared with the previous year, the numbers being 1,475 and 3,966, respectively, as against 1,334 and 3,668 : but the increase compared with the year 1906 is not great. The ratio of detection has risen in practically every class of case, being 72·86 in human poisoning cases, 80·58 in cattle poisoning cases, and 91·04 in cases of murder, etc., with violence. In spite of the introduction of rules under the Poisons Act in 1907, there is no falling off in the use of arsenic as a poison. Out of 323 cases of cattle poisoning, arsenic was the poison used in no less than 306. In human poisoning, arsenic was used in 411 cases out of a total of 647. Attention is being devoted to the improvement of judicial mortuaries and the safe custody of articles pending despatch to the Chemical Examiner from outstations.

51. Sanitation.

General.

181. The sum of one lakh of rupees was placed at the disposal of the Sanitary Board for distribution to municipalities during the financial year of 1908-09. Allotments of some Rs. 69,000 were actually made during 1908, and during the year power was delegated to the Sanitary Board to allot with the approval of Government grants up to a total of Rs. 50,000 per annum to district boards.

The very heavy rains at the end of August and the early part of September showed up defects in the drainages surrounding many towns in the province. At Amritsar the sub-soil water rose up to ground surface and there was much sickness in the town and surrounding villages. Fázilka, in the Ferozepore District, suffered perhaps more than any other place in the province. There the surface drainage combined with spill water from the canals was concentrated on the town and flooded it out. Many houses fell down, and of those that remained standing there were very few that did not suffer from the effects.

Sanitary Works.

182. At Delhi the intramural drainage works under construction by the Public Works Department were completed and handed over to the Municipal Committee for maintenance during the year under report. The work of the suburban drainage project (estimated cost Rs. 3,79,000) has been put in hand, and is being carried out by the Municipal Engineer. The Ludhiána waterworks were completed and handed over to the Municipal Committee for maintenance during the year. The hydro-electric scheme for Simla has been approved by the Government of India.

Private enterprise.

183. Works of public utility costing in all Rs. 87,000 were constructed by private individuals at their own expense to serve sanitary purposes.

Rewards.

184 Rewards offered by District Boards for improved village sanitation were few, partly from lack of interest on the part of village communities. In the Chenab Colony 25 villages received rewards of Rs. 1,000 each, and a sum of Rs. 740 was expended in *sanads* and *khillats* to lambardars and abadkars.

52. Vaccination.

Total operations.

185. The total number of persons vaccinated during the year was 668,898 There was a decrease in the total number of primary vaccinations, but a slight increase of 20,583 in re-vaccinations. In the total number of operations there was a decrease of 38,785. The decrease is manifestly due to the havoc caused by the epidemic of malaria and its consequent ill effect on the infantile population. The fact that there was a decrease of 10·43 per cent. in the total

number of children available for vaccination, and an increase of 4·76 per cent. this year in the ratio of successful primary operations to total number of children available may be regarded as an indication of the vaccination staff having worked fairly satisfactorily.

Percentage of success.

186. Excluding operations, the results of which are unknown, the total primary vaccinations performed by the district staff gave a percentage of success amounting to 98·49. The amount of success in re-vaccinations was 77·79.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

[For detailed information see the Punjab Education Report for 1908-09 and Statistics of British India, Part VII—Educational.]

53. General System of Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 616-635 of the report of 1901-02.)

Public instruction.

54. Education.

187. Expenditure on education has decreased by nearly a lakh of rupees, 55½ lakhs being the gross total for the year under report. "Direct" expenditure, *i.e.*, on tuition, shows an increase of Rs. 2,47,509 in the case of public institutions, of which Primary Schools account for Rs. 1,22,695, Secondary Schools for Rs. 59,478, Colleges for Rs. 34,006, and Special Schools for Rs. 31,411. "Indirect" expenditure, which comprises charges for direction, inspection, building, furniture, scholarships, etc., decreased by Rs. 3,24,438, of which 1½ lakhs were on account of retrenchment of expenditure on European school buildings. General statistics.

The number of public institutions in existence during 1908-09 was 4,404, with 253,784 pupils, and the number of private institutions was 2,699, with 48,792 pupils. In the former 2,491 attended Arts or Professional Colleges, 75,489 attended Secondary and 172,214 Primary Schools. Training and Special Schools accounted for 3,590 students. Of the private institutions, the advanced schools were attended by 3,795 and the elementary by 44,997 pupils. The figures show that 21·63 per cent. of all towns and villages are provided with schools, and that 16·18 per cent. of the male and 2·62 per cent. of the female population of the school-going age are receiving instruction.

The increase in the number of public institutions has, as hitherto, been largest in the case of Primary Schools, but this year's figure, 79, is the lowest on record since 1904-05. The increase in the number of scholars in Colleges and Secondary Schools is, however, greater this year than that in Primary Schools, being almost double last year's figure. But the increase in Primary Schools still indicates a fair rate of progress, if an inevitable decrease in attendance, due to the prevalence of malaria, is allowed for.

188. Among the measures of the year may be enumerated the abolition of "Circles" of inspection as distinct from divisions, and a consequent redistribution of inspecting officers' duties; the delegation of certain powers of appointment, etc., to Inspectors; the issue of a revised edition of the chapters in the Education Code relating to grants, teachers' examinations, etc.; a new contract for the publication of text-books, securing more favourable terms; changes in the scheme of studies for Normal Schools; the institution of Head Masters' Associations at important centres; the adoption of a scheme by which teachers from Government schools will be entitled to draw a fair proportion of their pay while under training; and the limitation of stipends in the B. T. class to teachers of at least one year's experience. Other educational changes include the starting of the Victoria May and Convent Schools for Indian girls at Lahore, and the experimental training class for village teachers at Kalanaur. The various improvements which are being carried out in college buildings throughout the province are particularly noteworthy. General progress.

Primary education.

189. The number of schools rose from 3,343 to 3,408, an increase of 65 as compared with 192 last year. There was a decrease of 18 in unaided schools: of the 86 new schools, 76 were board and 10 aided. The fall in unaided schools, and the slackening of the rate of progress generally, are attributed by Inspectors chiefly to the prevalence of malaria. It would appear that the large recurring grants, aggregating Rs. 4,20,000, which were sanctioned in 1905 from Imperial and provincial funds, are now found only sufficient to finance the new schools opened during the period which has since elapsed, in addition to enhancing teachers' salaries.

The number of pupils rose from 146,290 to 149,806, an increase of 3,516 as compared with 4,731 last year: the increase took place chiefly in the Multán, Lahore and Jullundur divisions. Agriculturists' sons attending schools have considerably increased, except in the Delhi and Ráwalpindi divisions.

The class for Zamindari School teachers in the Training College has been abolished, and Zamindari Schools are no longer recognised by the Code. Board Zamindari Schools have been converted into Rural Schools. The new Rural Schools have not as yet become generally popular. The curriculum of a school of the rural type is in some respects superior to that of the so-called town Primary School, but the existence of two types of school in rural tracts is generally admitted to be unnecessary. Steps are being taken to draw up a revised course which can be adopted in all schools, with modifications to suit the needs of the locality. There was a falling-off of 37 indigenous and other schools examined for grants, and a general decrease in the attendance and the grants earned, except in the Multán division, where Rs. 1,852 more were earned. This result is attributed to malaria and scarcity.

Secondary education.

190. There has virtually been no change in the number of Secondary Schools, but the attendance has risen by 4,382. Vernacular Middle Schools show an increase of 1,284 against 424 of last year. The demand for the teaching of English continues to grow, the increase in the number of pupils learning English having doubled its former rate. The total expenditure rose from 13½ to 14½ lakhs of rupees. Fees contributed over six lakhs, which is about 42 per cent. of the expenditure.

No change of any importance was made in the scheme of studies, but a revised scheme has been prepared and is under consideration. A revised scale of teachers' salaries as recommended by the last Educational Conference was drawn up for the guidance of local bodies.

The Punjab University.

191. The twenty-eighth Convocation was held on the 22nd December 1908, when the Vice-Chancellor, Sir P. C. Chatterjee, delivered the address. Degrees were conferred on 172 candidates, more by 23 than in 1907. The expenditure rose by Rs. 6,881 to Rs. 1,86,643, and the receipts by Rs. 9,864 to Rs. 2,02,521, fees having increased by about Rs. 13,316. The financial position appears to be sound. Regulations for the elections of Fellows by registered graduates were introduced during the year. History and Economics were made separate subjects in the degree examinations, and examinations for a degree in Honours were held for the first time. Important changes were also made in the Regulations with a view to the re-organisation of the Oriental College. The number of students who obtained degrees in the various Faculties was 172.

Arts Colleges.

192. Arts Colleges in British Territory (including the Oriental College) number 10, as last year. The number of students has risen from 1,725 to 1,860. The number of candidates appearing in the several examinations was 1,471 with 784 passes, as compared with 1,242 candidates and 547 passes in 1907-08. The percentage of passes in the Intermediate, B. A. and M. A. Examinations were 61, 42 and 44, respectively, and in the Science Faculty in the Intermediate, B. Sc. and M. Sc. Examinations they were 45, 20 and 87, respectively. The percentage of passes in the *new* examinations for degrees in Honours was also satisfactory, that for the First B. A. being 43 and for the First B. Sc. 75.

The total expenditure on Arts Colleges rose by Rs. 24,704 to Rs. 3,12,848, of which fees contributed Rs. 1,02,243, or Rs. 11,017 more than last year; provincial revenues Rs. 1,19,230, or Rs. 11,133 more; subscriptions Rs. 31,100, or Rs. 17,476 more; and endowments Rs. 57,791, or 14,571 less.

Training Colleges.

193. There was no change in the number of training institutions. There has been a very slight decrease in the number attending. The Central Training College and the Normal Schools experienced some difficulty in allotting the full number of stipends as sufficient candidates were not forthcoming. A scheme has been introduced by which selected teachers from Government Schools as well as those from Board Schools will receive their full salaries while in the Training College, or three-quarters if the salary exceeds Rs. 40. The supply of trained teachers is still below the demand. The training classes for Europeans at Simla and Sanáwar had their full number of stipendiaries, and are reported to be doing excellent work.

Special Schools.

194. The number of students in the Law College, Lahore, has risen, but the results of examinations are still unsatisfactory. The Mayo School of Art and the Government School of Engineering also show a slight decrease in numbers. The latter institution will shortly be handed over to the Public Works Department.

Female education.

195. The total number of schools has increased from 607 to 625, and of scholars from 23,588 to 24,916. The expenditure fell from Rs. 3,78,086 to Rs. 3,77,392. The large increase of Secondary Schools is a satisfactory feature, 26 being now in existence against 21 last year, but the shortness of the supply of teachers still remains an obstacle.

European education.

196. The number of public and private schools was unchanged, but the pupils rose from 2,285 to 2,296. The expenditure on these schools from provincial revenues fell by 1½ lakhs, owing to a retrenchment of expenditure on buildings.

Boarding-houses.

197. There were 305 boarding-houses for school and college students, with 13,527 inmates, as compared with 288 and 12,769 in the previous year. Boarding-houses for girls are the same in number (31), but the number of inmates rose from 1,567 to 1,818.

55. Literature and the Press.

Literature.

198. The total number of publications received for registration has again fallen, the number in 1908 being 1,185 as against 1,204 in 1907.

Of those registered, 497 were in Urdu, 342 in Punjabi, 125 bilingual and 84 in English, while poetry and religion are the dominating themes.

The number of books, of which the copy-right was registered is 240, or 59 more than in the previous year.

Religion as usual claims the highest number of books, *viz.*, 293, to which may be added a considerable number of poetical works which are mainly religious. As a sign of the times it may be remarked that religious works, which are in classical language and unintelligible to the majority of readers, are being translated into the vernaculars of the Punjab. The new critical spirit in religion is expressed in several works which try to explain religious doctrines in the light of reason and science.

The volume of verse published every year in Punjabi and Urdu is immense, in the year under report the number reaching the high figure of 292. Most of the poems deal with the loves and adventures of popular heroes. Very few of these books show any real poetical sentiment or beauty of diction. Exceptions however are Ufaq's Guru Gobind Singh, which describes scenes in the life of the Guru, and the "Tuzuk-i-Qaisari," a historical poem of some length, which takes a bird's-eye view of the chief incidents of Indian history, and ends with an enumeration of the blessings of British rule.

Biographies of political or religious leaders are coming into vogue. In this connection may be mentioned the Urdu translation of Dr. Simes' "Life of Queen Victoria".

Strictly political works are few, but in nearly every branch of literature there will be found works with a political tinge.

One of the most satisfactory features is that translations of good English novels are being undertaken, and that taste is improving in this respect.

Newspapers.

199. There were 252 newspapers published during the year. Of these 38 were published in English, 1 in English, Persian and Urdu, 182 in Urdu, 1 in Urdu and Hindi, 11 in Hindi, 1 in Urdu and Gurmukhi, and 18 in Gurmukhi. Three English and 51 Vernacular newspapers were started, and 6 English and 47 Vernacular newspapers ceased to exist during the year, leaving a total of 199 on the register. One paper was published half-yearly, 4 quarterly, 124 monthly, 30 twice a month, 3 thrice a month, 78 weekly, 3 twice a week, and 1 thrice a week. There were 8 daily papers.

Press prosecutions and warnings.

200. Proceedings under section 3 of the Newspapers (Incitement to Offences) Act, 1908, were instituted against the "*Inquilab*" newspaper of Lahore, in respect of an article entitled "Swaraj, Boycott, and National Education" in its issue of 10th October 1908. The "Qaumi Press," at which the paper was printed, was confiscated in December 1908, the order being subsequently made absolute.

Several papers were warned for failing to comply with the provisions of section 3, Act 25 of 1867.

The *Arya Gazette*, which had disregarded a previous warning, was prosecuted under section 12 of the same Act, and fined.

56. Literary Societies.

[See report for 1901-02. The subject will not be dealt with again till 1911-12.]

57. Arts and Sciences.

Lahore Museum.

201. The total number of visitors dropped from 276,941 to 152,617. It is evident from the daily returns that the severe sickness during the autumn of 1908 contributed chiefly to this decrease.

The Raw Product Section was re-arranged and opened to the public during the year, and the Art and Industry Section benefited by the receipt of old China ware and enamel work from the Delhi Museum.

Art sale room.

202. The sales effected during the year amount to Rs. 587-11-0, being Rs. 1,111-11-0 less than during the previous year. The principal reason for the falling-off in sales is that this room was not properly stocked during the previous two years.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

[Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the following publications:—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for 1908-09; Annual Progress Report of the Superintendent of the Archæological Survey, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1909.]

58. Archæology.

203. The most important works carried out in the Punjab during the year 1908-09 were the repairs to the ancient stone temples at Baijnáth, Kángra district, which were damaged by the earthquake of 1905.

204. The Bhuri Singh Museum, Chamba State, was opened on the 24th September 1908. It contains Indian pictures, portraits, wood carving, stone and copper-plate inscriptions. One of the latter, belonging to the first year of Asata, 1080 A.D., possesses some historical interest.

205. The Delhi Museum of Archæology was opened to the public in January 1909. One hundred and ninety-one Gandhara sculptures, from the collection of Lord William Beresford, were transferred to Lahore Museum during the year. A complete list of ancient monuments in the Northern Circle is under preparation.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

[See page 189 of the report for the year 1901-02. The Bishop also exercises ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the Persian Gulf.]

60 Ecclesiastical.

206. The various ecclesiastical institutions were noticed in the report the year 1901-02. During the year under review the Government of India decided that no new Government churches in military stations should be consecrated, and that in future Local Governments should not give permission to the consecration of any church without previous reference to the Supreme Government, as when permission is given to consecrate a church at any station, whether civil or military, the question has to be considered with reference not only to the existing garrison, if any, but to any redistribution of troops likely to be made in future. Moreover, since expenditure under the head Ecclesiastical is Imperial, the grant of permission to consecrate a church may involve the Government of India in additional expenditure by way of assistance to churches other than the Church of England for the provision of separate church accommodation.

A proposal to extend the cemetery at Ludhiána at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,075 was sanctioned by the Local Government.

61. Stationery.

207. The Punjab Administration draws its supply of stationery from the Calcutta Stores. The value of stationery issued to officers in the Punjab during the year aggregated Rs. 2,38,906 as against Rs. 2,40,742 in the previous year—cost of printing paper Rs. 1,08,897, office stationery Rs. 1,28,208, and padlocks Rs. 1,801 against Rs. 1,07,118, Rs. 1,32,475 and Rs. 1,149, respectively last year.

62. Punjab Government Press.

208. The following statement compares the income and expenditure with the value of work turned out during the years 1907-08 and 1908-09:—

Income.		Expenditure.		Value of work.	
1907-08.	1908-09.	1907-08.	1908-09.	1907-08.	1908-09.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
19,988	19,326	1,46,358	1,62,877	1,37,998	1,51,236

The income of the Press during the year under report was Rs. 19,326 as against Rs. 19,988 in the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,62,877 against Rs. 1,46,358 in 1907-08. The cost of work done by the Contractors for Government Printing for departments and offices during 1908-09 was Rs. 56,172 against Rs. 74,145.

PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT, 1909-1910.

Agents for the Sale of Punjab Government Publications.

In London.

E. A. Arnold, 41 and 43, Maddox Street, Bond Street, W.

Constable & Co., 10, Orange Street, Leicester Square, W. C.

Grindlay & Co., 54, Parliament Street, S. W.

Henry S. King & Co., 65, Cornhill, E. C.

P. S. King & Son, 2 and 4, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S. W.

Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., 43, Gerrard Street, Soho, W.

B. Quaritch, 11, Grafton Street, New Bond Street, W.

T. Fisher Unwin, 1, Adelphi Terrace, W. C.

W. Thacker & Co., 2, Creed Lane, London, E. C.

Luzac & Co., 46, Great Russell Street, London, W. C.

On the Continent.

Friedlander & Sohn, 11, Carlstrasse, Berlin.

Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig.

Carl W. Hiersemann, Leipzig.

Ernest Leroux, 28, Rue Bonaparte, Paris.

Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague.

Rudolf Haupt, 1, Dorrienstrasse, Leipzig, Germany.

In India.

Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta & Simla.

Newman & Co., Calcutta.

R. Cambray & Co., Calcutta.

Thacker & Co., Bombay.

Higginbotham & Co., Madras.

V. Kalyanaram Iyer & Co., 189, Esplanade Row, Madras.

G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.

Superintendent, American Baptist Mission Press, Rangoon.

A. Chand & Co., Imperial Book Depôt Office, Delhi.

Gulab Singh & Sons, Mufid-i-'Am Press, Lahore.

Manager, Punjab Law Book Depôt, Anárkali Bazar, Lahore.

S. Mumtaz Ali & Son, Rafah-i-'Am Press, Lahore [for Vernacular Publications only].

Manager, The Aryan Printing, Publishing and General Trading Co., Limited. Lahore.

N. B. Mathur, Superintendent and Proprietor, Nazair Kanun Hind Press, Allahabad.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1909-1910.

LAHORE:
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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1909-10.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(The "year" throughout this report is not invariably the financial year ending 31st March 1910. At the heading of each chapter, with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1910, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1909, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1909.

The Administration Report for 1901-02 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.)

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel of the administration.

1. Sir Louis William Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., held charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor throughout the year.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES.

Political.

2. Among the most important events of the year which call for notice were the investiture, in September 1909, of the Maharaja of Patiála with full powers, and the consequent termination of the existence of the Council of Regency. An officer of the Indian Civil Service was at the request of the Raja lent to the Darbar and appointed to act as President of the Administrative Council of Kapúrthala. The popular discontent in Mandi culminated in a serious disturbance in May 1909, which necessitated the despatch of troops from Simla. Order was quickly restored and steps taken to regulate the future administration of the State. The affairs of the other States do not call for special remark.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

3. The year was marked by a distinct improvement in the health of the people, and the agricultural conditions prevailing were favourable.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Land revenue.

4. The year 1908-09 proved somewhat disappointing. An unusually strong monsoon current gave abundant rain throughout the province through the months of July and August 1908 and its early cessation was actually beneficial. Prospects were therefore exceptionally bright until a virulent outbreak of malaria in the autumn prostrated the people and seriously hampered both sowing and harvesting operations. Still the outturn of the autumn crop was about 20 per cent. above the normal, and the spring harvest on the whole was good.

In the circumstances it is not surprising that collections were good. Ninty-seven per cent. of the fixed demand was recovered; of the balance, about 80 per cent. was suspended and 10 per cent. remitted. A satisfactory reduction has been made in the outstanding balance of recoverable revenue, though the total of 38¼ lakhs still in arrears is unduly large.

Considerable progress has recently been made in the direction of reducing the inconvenience to lambardars of making payments at the tahsil; remittances by money-order are increasingly popular; and trial is being made of permitting currency notes to be sent by post. In view of such facilities the prompt payment of land revenue when due may fairly be required.

It is gratifying to find that in consequence of a prosperous year and perhaps also of the special arrangements made to secure close intercommunication between civil and canal officers complaints regarding irrigation arrangements have ceased to be preferred, the more so as the canals were strained to the utmost for the spring harvest owing to a shortage in winter rains. It is not to be expected that the cultivators will be satisfied in dry years when the demand for water exceeds the supply, but as long as district and irrigation officers are working in concert it may be hoped that the acute discontent which prevailed last year will remain a thing of the past.

Surveys.

5. The topographical survey operations in the Dera Gházi Khan, Muzaffargarh and Miánwáli districts were completed, as was also the traverse survey of the Bari Doab tract. A scheme for further expediting and cheapening the work in future settlements was approved.

Settlements.

6. The Gurgaon settlement was completed in September, and settlement operations were in progress in six other districts.

A distinct advance was made during the year in the direction of the curtailment of the period spent on measurement work, a new system of map correction having been introduced in two districts under settlement.

It is to be hoped that in future it will also be possible to reduce the time devoted to record work. It may indeed be worth while to proceed a step further forward and to reconcile ourselves to a somewhat lower standard of accuracy in our theoretical assessments in order to hasten the completion of the settlements, as in all cases the half assets estimate is much above what in practice we can take as land revenue in this province.

Land records.

7. The number of agriculturists nominated for the post of patwari continues to increase gradually. The most important questions which came under consideration during the year were the adequacy of the patwaris' pay and the provision of patwarkhanas. On the one hand complaints are frequently made that the pay is insufficient to attract suitable candidates; on the other hand, it has been stated that owing to miscellaneous advantages enjoyed by them it would not pay patwaris to accept promotion to the post of officiating kanungo unless they received a minimum pay of Rs. 25 per mensem. Certain alterations in the rules about mutation fees have added from Re. 1 to Rs. 2 to their monthly emoluments, which do not compare unfavourably with those of many school masters. The question of providing a further enhancement is therefore one of some difficulty.

Any general scheme for the provision of new patwarkhanas is likely to be beyond the means of Government for some years to come and it is not at all certain that the patwaris would not, as has happened before, refuse to live in the patwarkhanas; but possibly it may be found feasible to provide residences in circles in which it is absolutely impossible to rent a house for the patwari. Such circles are not likely to be numerous.

Colonels.

8. The year was a most favourable one for the colonies, and the only drawback was that the monsoon rains of 1908 were a little too heavy. Irrigation appears to have been on the whole satisfactory, prices were good, and there are no longer complaints of the railways being unable to move the produce. The great prosperity of these tracts is evidenced by the prices business men are ready to pay for market sites on new railway lines. In the auction sale at Jaranwála the price realised amounted to over £ 3,000 per acre, though the land sold was waste, uncommanded by the canal and not forming part of any town. In the matter of sanitation, arboriculture and in their readiness to adopt agricultural improvements the colonists now show the way to the rest of the Punjab.

The horse-breeding experiment in the Jhelum Colony continues to be successful, and the Chenab Colony promises to be a valuable source for the supply to the army of remounts as well as mules.

Land Alienation Act.

9. The area redeemed again exceeds the area mortgaged by a satisfactory margin, and the nett gain to the classes for whose benefit the Act was devised is very marked. The fact that few evasions of the Act are reported disposes of the allegation that credit has been impaired, though indeed the anxiety of all classes to be notified under the Act seems itself to refute that theory.

Revenue business.

10. Revenue work has decreased slightly since last year, and the general result is satisfactory.

Protection.

Legislative Council.

11. The year was a notable one in the constitutional history of the province, owing to the important changes in the constitution and procedure of the Legislative Council effected under the scheme of reform relating to the whole of India, which had been under discussion for the past three years. These changes involve a very considerable enlargement of the Council from

nine to twenty-five members, the introduction for the first time of a system of election of members, and the creation of a non-official majority. At the same time the rules regulating the procedure of the Council have been so modified as to give it very much wider opportunities of expressing its opinion on administrative matters. Discussions will now be possible on all matters of public interest, and in particular members will in future be able to take a real and active part in shaping the financial proposals of the year. It may be confidently hoped that the new Council with its more truly representative character and enlarged functions has a future of much useful work before it.

Police.

12. The period under report was marked by prosperity and easy conditions. Offences against property decreased in consequence, though in the more turbulent districts of the Punjab the increase of offences against the person, due possibly to want of regard for constituted authority, continued. There was a decrease of approximately one-fifth in the number of cases under the head "public nuisances", which it is difficult to explain.

There is no doubt, however, that the year exhibits a record of sound progress and good work on which the force is to be congratulated, and that there is a continued steady rise in the general morale of the police in the province. A better stamp of man with higher educational qualifications is now being recruited for the important post of Sub-Inspector, and this should go far to secure a further improvement.

Criminal Justice.

13. Apart from a marked decrease in the amount of cognizable crime, the year was uneventful so far as the administration of criminal justice was concerned. At the same time our system of criminal procedure attracted a more than usually close attention, and the rather lengthy procedure of our courts was a matter of anxious consideration throughout the year both to the Lieutenant-Governor and to the Hon'ble Judges of the Chief Court. It is to be hoped that now that the law is to be amended, much needless repetition, and much that is unessential and that unduly favours the accused will disappear from the Code.

Four new Sessions Judges were appointed during the year. Much useful work was done by the Honorary Magistracy. A draft of a Village Criminal Justice Bill was prepared and submitted to the Government of India. The object of the Bill is to create an honorary agency of a class which should recommend itself to the people to deal with petty offences.

Prisons.

14. The favourable agricultural conditions prevailing throughout the year account for the decrease of 5 per cent. in the number of convicts imprisoned.

Definite progress was made towards the realisation of the economical policy of concentration which had been adopted so long ago as 1882. The Simla district jail is under conversion to a lock-up and the Amritsar district jail to a subsidiary jail. This should produce a saving of Rs. 10,000 per annum.

Instructions were issued directing Government officers to indent where practicable on jails for office requirements. The result has been a striking increase in the profits from jail manufactures.

15. Nothing very remarkable occurred in connection with the administration of civil justice during the year under review. The strengthening of the judicial branch of the subordinate provincial service was under consideration throughout the year, and a certain number of appointments were created in the judicial branch, corresponding reductions being made in the cadre of Extra Assistant Commissioners. The intention is to have eventually as far as possible a separate judicial service, trying only civil cases. This will not however be an entirely continuous judicial service from the lowest grade of Munsif to the highest grade of Extra Judicial Assistant Commissioner as it has been found necessary to recruit for the judicial branch from other sources than Munsifs. **Civil Justice.**

The number of original suits rose again by about 20,000. It is now nearly as much as it was before the passing of the Punjab Limitation of Loans Act, 1904. The pending file, however, was 1,500 less than in 1900. There was a marked improvement in the execution of decrees.

16. While optional registrations declined, compulsory registrations again increased in number. The increase in the number of sales and mortgages is general. In the case of the latter the explanation probably is that people are taking advantage of the high prices of land and of its produce to redeem part of their holdings by the remortgage of the rest at a higher rate per acre. **Registration.**

Local Self-Government.

17. The history of district boards during the year 1909-10 was not marked by any notable departure from precedent, or special progress in efficiency. Where the election system obtains, sufficient candidates for the vacant seats are hard to find. When there is a contest, the percentage of voters polling is inconsiderable. It is hoped, however, that when the boards find that they really have work to do greater interest will be taken in the elections. The recent orders of Government that boards shall meet six times in the year has produced an increase in the number of meetings held. **District Boards.**

The working of the boards is largely dependent on the idiosyncrasy of the district officer and the time at his disposal, and there is no doubt that in some districts members of the board have practically very little voice in the management of its affairs. With more frequent meetings fuller opportunities for discussion should be available. Devolution to sub-committees and thence to individual members should, it may be added, be tried more extensively and more persistently; it is otherwise impossible to develop in the latter any sense of personal responsibility. It is hoped that the policy of making over to the boards public works within their capacity will do much to increase their utility.

The year was one of good harvests and general prosperity, and the total income of the boards rose by 4½ lakhs to 53½ lakhs.

18. As in the case of the district boards, the municipal elections excited very little interest in the greater part of the province. The fact, however, that groups of municipalities elect members to the Legislative Council did produce considerable keenness over the elections in Jullundur city and also in parts of the Delhi division, and it is to be expected that this cause will **Municipalities.**

stimulate interest in the elections in a greater degree as time goes on. The system of sectional representation has been tried in a few municipalities, and has generally served to reduce friction. There is, however, some difference of opinion on the subject, but while the objections to the system may in many cases outweigh its advantages, it has achieved a certain degree of success, and should be carefully watched where it exists, and such measures taken elsewhere as seem likely to reduce factional feeling.

With few exceptions committees have met regularly during the year. Their working has been on the whole unexceptionable. Sub-committees are beginning to show their usefulness. The Municipal Bill gives more scope for individual action and delegation to sub-committees and, as in the case of the district boards, it may be hoped that more use will be made of these provisions.

The result of the inquiries instituted into the subject of octroi shows that, as far as the Punjab is concerned, the prospect of its abolition is very remote and in some form or other it must be generally retained. An attempt to introduce a quit tax at Lahore proved infructuous. It is evident therefore that efforts must now be directed to improving the machinery for collection, and as a matter of fact many improvements and additions have been made in the octroi establishments, and the cost of collection has fallen in several places.

The year was prosperous and healthy. There was little malarial fever, and municipal towns were with three exceptions free from plague. An encouraging sign of progress is the tendency to adopt bye-laws regulating the conditions of the sale of food and drink. There is moreover no doubt that a class is coming into existence which is really sensitive to the grosser sanitary defects and to the inconvenience of bad roads and lighting.

Agriculture, Weather and Crops.

Agricultural Department.

19. During the year under report the Agricultural Department in the Punjab has extended its work in many directions. In spite of the shortage of qualified assistants the superior staff has found time to undertake, and to further, experiments in scientific agriculture which cannot fail to have far-reaching effects on the prosperity of the province. The Punjab Agricultural College has now been open for a year. The large decrease in the number of applications for admission is not a matter for anxiety. It is better to proceed slowly in new ventures. It is, moreover, beginning to be recognized that the College is not intended as a cheap and easy means of entrance to Government service.

Another new departure is the opening of the agricultural station at Gurdáspur. A comparison of the results obtained here with those in the Canal Colonies should prove very instructive. Experiments with wheat and cotton continue to absorb the attention of the Economic Botanist and the Professor of Agriculture. It is to be hoped that the efforts made to "strengthen" the wheat staple of the province and to standardize it will meet with success. The experiments with cassava are disappointing, but there is every reason to hope for good results from the date-growing experiments in the South-West Punjab.

The advance in the popularity of agricultural machines is very striking. The exhibits of the Agricultural Department were a prominent and successful feature of the Lahore Exhibition of 1909.

Veterinary Department.

20. The continued demand for veterinary graduates is gratifying evidence of the good training they receive at the Punjab Veterinary College. It is hoped that arrangements which are under consideration in connection with the King Edward Provincial Memorial will result in the transfer of the College to a more commodious and suitable site which will permit of much-needed extensions being carried into effect.

During the year sound progress was made by the Civil Veterinary Department, and 8 new veterinary hospitals were opened, bringing the total up to 94. The large increase in the number of cases treated shows that the department is rapidly gaining the confidence of the people. In view of the large increase of *surra* throughout the province it is to be hoped that the efforts being made to evolve a satisfactory form of treatment for the disease will meet with success.

Loans to agriculturists.

21. Four and a quarter lakhs were distributed in loans under Act XII of 1884. This is almost double the amount required in 1906-07, and shows how the recent dry cycle has affected the cultivators. Some of the reports seem to indicate that here, as in the matter of suspensions, the liberal policy of the Government may have been carried too far. This may be difficult to avoid in times of scarcity, but now that conditions are improving, the working of the Act requires considerable care on the part of district officers. There is still a very large debit outstanding amounting to 20 lakhs of principal alone. The orders regarding collections, which were issued last year, have resulted in a reduction of the debt, but the position is by no means satisfactory yet.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

22. The number of societies has risen from 316 to 706, working capital from Rs. 8,12,939 to Rs. 15,81,537, and membership from 23,429 to 38,555. The agricultural prosperity and comparative freedom from epidemic disease are reflected in the notable expansion of co-operative societies.

The Registrar's report quotes a number of suggestive instances where small rural societies have embarked on schemes never contemplated at their foundation. In the Chenab Colony they have bought agricultural machinery, opened shops, and traded in wool and cattle. At Chuheke in Jullundur a bank, which started with a capital of twenty rupees, provides scholarships at a middle school, and forms a panchayat for the settlement of village disputes. In fact, in many places the bank committees act as standing panchayats. The co-operative storage and sale of grain is an obvious means of mutual protection, though it is perhaps surprising that it should have originated among the "Janglis" of the Rechna Doab.

The formation of central banks, of which there are now six, their relation to unions, and the comparative merits of the two forms of combination are problems which still have to be solved. The principle may, however, be accepted that central banks should follow and not precede the extension of rural banks.

Prices.

23. A favourable season brought with it a gradual decline in the prices of food-grains, though they still ruled high, and the principal staples sold at

harvest time at rates between 21 and 30 per cent. above what have hitherto been regarded as the normal rates. There is no doubt however that these normal rates must now be revised and considerably raised as prices show no tendency to revert to the level of ten years ago.

Weather and Crops.

24. The total rainfall during the monsoon of 1909 was nearly everywhere in excess. The area placed under kharif crops was, however, slightly below normal, agriculturists having their hands full with the harvesting of the bumper spring crop. The early part of the winter was exceptionally dry, but good general rains fell in the second half of December and again in the middle of January. The conditions were favourable and outturns generally above the average.

Forests.

Forest offences.

25. The continued increase in the number of forest offences is disquieting. There is little variation in the numbers of forest fires or illicit fellings, but the large increase in grazing offences calls for more than a passing comment. The Conservator is doubtless right in his surmise that the main cause is "the increase in the number and value of cattle which, combined with the curtailment of waste lands, make it more worth the while of graziers to run the risk of detection, when grazing their animals in prohibited areas." The general problem of the provision of grazing is becoming more and more important in the Punjab, and it is a matter of great difficulty to reconcile the conflicting interests of the graziers, with their increasing demands, and of the forest administration, with its anxiety to arrest the deterioration of the forests. It is possible, however, that a compromise may be found by restricting to some extent the area under the control of the Forest Department, and thus making more grazing available, while at the same time the control of the department over the areas it retains may be made stricter and more efficient.

Exploitation.

26. Removals by purchasers increased from 1,589,000 cubic feet of timber to 3,075,000. The increase is not so large as it appears, and is due in great measure to adjustments during the past year of timber extracted from Bashahr the year before. It is satisfactory that the extraction of Kángra bamboos has doubled, and it may be hoped that a market will eventually be found for Kángra fuel. A road to the bamboo forests is required. The reduction in stock timber from 515,000 cubic feet to 258,000 is also satisfactory evidence of improved demand.

General.

27. It is to be regretted that negotiations for the sale of Populus Euphratica for the manufacture of matches were not successful, but the scheme for wood pulp is more promising. A scheme for a central resin factory at Lahore is now under consideration.

Manufactures.

28. The total number of factories in the Punjab is now 259. One hundred and seventy-four of these are cotton-ginning factories. Should the manufacture of cotton seed oil be started, it will afford a great opportunity for these mills, which could be utilised for crushing the seed at very little extra expense. The matter has been engaging the attention of the Local Government for some time past.

The wages earned in the factories compare favourably with those earned by agricultural labourers.

There is a shortage of labour, which in the case of adult labour is becoming serious, and necessitates in many cases the recruitment of workers from outside the province.

TRADE.

Internal Trade.

29. The report for this year deals with the triennium ending 31st March 1910.

The agricultural conditions during the period under review were on the whole fairly good, but the poor kharif crop of 1907 and the distinctly bad spring harvest in 1908 had a very marked effect on trade and prices. But the rapid recovery is an encouraging feature, and the fact that the volume of imports was never seriously contracted undeniably points to real prosperity throughout the province.

As usual the main export trade consists of food-grains, and the rise of prices in this direction has been a source of considerable profit to the province as a whole. A comparison with the period 1904—07 shows that the average price of wheat and wheat flour is rather more than Re. 1 per maund higher in the later period.

Such tanning before export as the Punjab used to do, it has now lost, and it sends out nearly all the skins in the raw state, but it is by no means certain that the establishment of local tanneries of the present type would stop the export trade to America. A recent inspection of the large tanning factories in India showed that the methods employed were inferior and rendered it impossible for the firms to compete successfully in the European market. An improvement in our methods is also desirable.

Turning to the imports, the most noticeable feature is that while there has been an increase of 40 per cent. in weight, the value has only risen by 23 per cent. The Punjab peasant is therefore in a very strong position at present. The falling-off in coal and coke imports, which took place in previous years, has not continued, and as the greater portion is consumed by factories, this is a fair indication that trade is improving. Otherwise the returns are normal and call for no comment.

Trans-Frontier trade.

30. Imports from Chinese Tibet show a satisfactory increase in wool and borax, but with this exception there is a general all-round shrinkage in the volume of trade ; and some serious effort to meet Russian competition to the north, backed as it is by railways and cart roads, seems to be called for. Communications require improving, but during the past triennium considerable progress has been made, and a scheme for financing the building of a camel road on an alignment suitable for cart traffic from Larji in Kulu to Rúpar *viâ* Mandi, Suket and Biláspur is under consideration. The financing of this project presents difficulties, but as it will open up these three States and the Kulu valley, as well as stimulate the Central Asian and Tibet trade, it is to be hoped that these difficulties may be got over.

The only really satisfactory feature in the history of the past three years is the prospect of fresh avenues for Indian tea being found in Afghánistán, and Tibet, and if Indian traders can discover the secret of the flavour of the Chinese brick tea, as one firm is reported to have done, its cheapness should cause it to find a ready market.

Joint Stock Companies.

31. The number of companies has only increased by eight, and the nominal capital of all companies registered now amounts to 588 lakhs of rupees. The inhabitants of this province are still slow in taking to this means of investing their money.

Public Works.

32. The expenditure on Public Works was over 2 lakhs less than in the previous year. Under the head of Provincial Works, 13¼ lakhs were spent on civil buildings, 10¾ lakhs on communications, and 6 lakhs on miscellaneous improvements. A change of policy was adopted with regard to the construction and maintenance of feeder roads, and in furtherance of the policy of decentralisation and of encouraging local self-government it was decided that all old and new completed roads of this class should be transferred to the local boards for future maintenance, the funds available for such maintenance being made over to Commissioners for distribution.

Railways.

33. There was a marked increase in the amount of the gross earnings of the North-Western Railway as compared with last year. The total figures, 732 lakhs, are higher than those of any year in the quinquennium except 1907. This is entirely due to the excellent harvests and the consequent increase in the export traffic.

Irrigation.

34. The total area irrigated by the Punjab Canals—Imperial, Provincial, and Native States—was 7,086,611 acres. This is slightly below the average of the previous triennium.

The profitable nature of the investment made by Government in irrigation works may be gauged by the fact that the net return on capital invested in the Lower Chenab Canal was as much as 27·11 per cent., while in the case of the Upper Sutlej Inundation Canals the profit was even higher, *viz.*, 27·94 per cent. The total net profit on all canals classed as productive amounted to Rs. 1,08,18,317.

Excellent progress was made during the year with the construction work on the Upper Chenab, Upper Jhelum, and Lower Bari Doab Canals, the total expenditure on these three schemes alone amounting to approximately Rs. 108 lakhs.

Revenue and Expenditure.

35. The revenue raised in the province amounted to Rs. 7,36,51,000 or 84·82 lakhs more than in 1908-09. The figures are given in detail in section 36. The increase over last year's receipts is mainly due to collections under the head of *Land Revenue*, which were 62 lakhs better. There was also a

notable increase under the head of *Irrigation*. In both of these cases the improvement is due to the excellent harvests.

There was a drop of some 4 lakhs in the receipts from *Excise* due to a reduction in the amounts realised from vend fees of liquor, opium and drugs owing to a change in the rules and perhaps to a too low fixation of maximum fees. Apart from the *Miscellaneous items*, which exhibit an increase of about 6 lakhs, the figures for the other main heads of revenue do not call for remark.

With the exception of an increase of $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs under *Irrigation* and a decrease of 2 lakhs under *Land Revenue* and $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs under *Forests* the heads of expenditure do not exhibit any marked variation from the figures of last year, the net result working out at $\frac{3}{4}$ lakh less than in 1908-09.

Vital Statistics.

36. The climatic conditions of the province during 1909 were generally favourable to the public health. Prices of food-stuffs fell and the wages of labour continued high. The comparatively early cessation of the monsoon rainfall ensured a dry and healthy close to the year, and the end of 1909 was fortunately marked by a singular absence of malarial fever. To this circumstance, however, the elaborate arrangements made for combating the disease contributed in no slight degree.

The severe outbreak of malaria which marked the closing months of 1908 had its effect on the birth-rate, which fell as low as 35·1 per mille, the lowest recorded rate since 1894. Conditions were, however, otherwise so favourable that a death-rate of only 30·89 was recorded, with the result that there was an increase in the population of 4·2 *per mille*.

Medical Relief.

37. During the year the total number of dispensaries rose by 17 and at its close stood at 455. The gradual and steady extension of medical relief is certainly a matter for satisfaction, but at the same time the danger must be avoided of expanding too rapidly, if this is likely to lead to the foundation of new institutions insufficiently equipped through want of funds. If the confidence of the masses in the Western system of medicine is to be won it is evident that efficiency should be our primary aim.

Notwithstanding that the year was on the whole a healthy one the total number of patients of all classes (4,511,751) was only slightly smaller than the phenomenally large number in the previous year, when the province suffered from a severe epidemic of malaria. This seems to indicate an increasing confidence in the dispensaries, and this is borne out by the considerable rise in the number of women and children treated.

Surgical work continues to expand, and the total number of operations performed, 220,243, was 20,833 greater than in 1908. The high percentage of success obtained in cataract cases, 93·53 per cent., is most commendable.

The hospital income stands at Rs. 13,45,821, and shows a considerable increase on the income of the previous year. It is satisfactory that municipalities have increased their contribution by half a lakh and district boards

by one lakh. In the matter of subscriptions by private people, however, there is little improvement.

SANITATION.

38. The Sanitary Board continued to do useful work. Of a sum of one lakh placed at their disposal for grants-in-aid to municipalities some Rs. 87,000 were allotted, the principal grant being one of Rs. 37,500 to the Amritsar sullage scheme. During the year the Board asked that their consultative functions in matters affecting the public health should be enhanced, but no orders have been passed, pending a decision as to how far the recommendations of the Decentralisation Commission with reference to Sanitary Boards are to be followed.

A feature of the year was the awakening of the public interest in sanitary matters. This is evidenced by the activity of the municipal committee of Lahore in taking measures to improve the sanitary conditions of the city. And though much remains to be done, signs are not wanting that the general public are more keenly alive to the necessity of sanitary improvements than they used to be. As this feeling intensifies, the functions of our Sanitary Commissioners and Engineers must largely increase in importance.

EDUCATION.

39. In taking stock of the present educational position in the province the Director of Public Instruction remarks:—"In education it is quality rather than quantity that matters, and here it is to be feared that there are few signs of progress owing to want of funds for buildings and teachers." This is the key-note of the history of the past year. In quantity there has been a marked development. In practically all classes of institutions the numbers of the pupils increased, the total increase being 19,855 males and 7,035 females. Hindus (including Sikhs) increased by 8·6 per cent. and Muhammadans by 8·1 per cent. But for lack of funds the extension and improvement of school accommodation has not kept pace with the demand for education as evidenced by the growth of school attendance, and a difficulty is experienced in recruiting new material for the teaching staff of the quality that is desirable.

The increase in school attendance has, however, not been reached without extra outlay. The total expenditure has increased by Rs. 2,84,104, or by about 5 per cent., and it is satisfactory that more than half of this increase has been met from fees and other private sources. The Provincial Government has contributed nearly a lakh more than in the previous year. Municipal expenditure has increased by 12 per cent., but district boards have spent slightly less on education than in the previous year. Some boards had forced the pace, and had started new schools not only in advance of the demand, but also without sufficient consideration of their financial position.

The progress indicated by the figures in the report showing school attendance has been greatest, not, as might have been anticipated and hoped for, in primary schools, but in the secondary stage of education. The year's

increase in pupils in high and middle schools is 14·2 per cent. as compared with an increase of only 5·7 per cent. in primary schools. The growing strength of the demand for higher, and especially English, education, in itself a matter for congratulation, may, if not carefully guided, operate to the prejudice of primary education by diverting to high and middle schools funds upon which the elementary schools should have the first call. In fact, quite recently the Lieutenant-Governor has had to issue certain general instructions regulating priority of lien when owing to insufficiency of funds in the exchequers of local bodies the claims of primary and secondary education are found to come into competition.

An increase of 15 per cent. in the number of girl pupils marks a notable development in the progress of female education, which it may confidently be hoped will prove uninterruptedly continuous. This is *par excellence* the field for private effort, and there are signs that such effort will not be wanting on the part of religious and other private bodies. Indeed the great interest which is everywhere being taken in female education is one of the most encouraging features of the educational history of the province.

The administrative changes introduced during the year include the re-arrangement by which Inspectors' charges correspond with Commissioners' divisions, the abolition of the school year as a period distinct from the financial year, the discontinuance of the system under which District Inspectors were employed outside their districts, and the adoption of the policy, advocated by Government in the review of last year's report, of making boarding-houses more nearly self-supporting.

Miscellaneous.

40. One of the chief events of the year was the organisation at Lahore of an Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition for the Punjab, North-West Frontier Province and Kashmir, which was held during the winter months.

Differing from previous exhibitions held in Lahore, on this occasion the display was primarily and mainly the result of private enterprise. Originating in the first instance with the Provincial Committee of the Indian National Congress, the details of the undertaking were carried out by an Executive Committee of prominent residents of Lahore, under the presidency of Sir P. C. Chatterji, Kt., C.I.E., and various sub-committees. At the same time the scheme obtained the cordial support of Government, which authorised the committee to enlist the services of Heads of Departments, Commissioners, District Officers, district boards, municipal committees, &c., and also furnished a guarantee against loss up to the extent of one lakh. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moreover, consented to become a Patron of the Exhibition, as did the Maharaja of Kashmir and a number of the ruling Chiefs of the Province. A site for the buildings was found in the piece of ground near the Fort and the Badami Bagh Station.

The Exhibition was opened in state by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on December 11th, 1909. Before formally opening it, His Honour delivered an address, in which he made a comprehensive survey of the past

and present agricultural, industrial and economic conditions of the Province, and pointed out the directions in which further development of the resources of the country could most hopefully be looked for. Among the many interesting features of the display, of which a fuller account will be found in Part II, perhaps the most prominent, as might naturally be expected, were the exhibits under the heads of Irrigation and Agriculture. The section devoted to indigenous industrial products under the heads of Textiles, Metal wares and utensils, Decoration, Furniture and Chemical Industries was most complete. A notable feature was a special competition in hand-loom weaving. The Lahore School of Art and other important educational institutions were well represented. The Sanitary Department prepared a most instructive exhibit, as did also the Forest and Jail Departments. The Fishery exhibit of the Government of Bengal attracted considerable attention. Several of the Native States organised special courts of their own. In addition to the exhibits proper, provision was also made on a liberal scale of a great variety of amusements for the entertainment of visitors. The weather was unfortunately somewhat unpropitious at first, but the Exhibition was nevertheless very well attended, and was not finally closed till February 7th, 1910.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1. Physical Features of the Country, Area and Climate.

(See pages 1—12 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

2. Historical Summary.

(See pages 12—32 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

3. Form of Administration.

(See pages 32—35 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 35—43 of the report for the year 1901-02 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5. Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 44 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 45—53 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

7. Changes in the Administration.

Personnel of the administration.

1. Sir Louis William Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., held the office of Lieutenant-Governor throughout the year.

Administrative changes.

2. In order to lighten the work of the Lahore Commissionership, and for other reasons of administrative convenience, the Montgomery district was, on the 1st April 1909, transferred to the Multán division, the Miánwáli district (with the exception of the Leiah tahsil, which was added to the Muzaffargarh district) being at the same time made over to the Ráwalpindi division. The Leiah tahsil was on March 1st, 1910, constituted a sub-division.

Area, population and revenue of the Punjab.

3. The area of the province according to the latest returns is 97,209 square miles, its population is 20,306,252, and the land revenue collections 313¾ lakhs of rupees.

8. Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Political supervision.

4. There has been no change in the arrangements detailed in the report for 1908-09 for the supervision of the Native States in the Punjab. The following brief notices are inserted concerning special events of importance in the history of particular States during the year :—

PATIALA.

Area 5,412 miles; population, 15,96,692; gross revenue, Rs. 78,67,100; army and police, 5,542; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 19.

Administrative.

5. The Maharaja was granted full powers on the 30th September 1909, and the Council of Regency ceased to exist from that date. Wazir General Gurdit Singh was appointed Chief Secretary. At first the Maharaja had four ministers over the heads of departments, all business being taken direct to him by the ministers concerned. After a very short time, however, the ministers were dispensed with, and heads of departments went direct to the Maharaja.

General.

6. In the beginning of March Mr. Warburton, who in the capacity of Inspector-General of Police had for ten years done exceptional service to the State, retired from office, and was succeeded by Sardar Bhagwan Singh.

The finances of the State continue to flourish, although the actual cash balance has been somewhat reduced owing to heavy expenditure in the

year. This is the first year after the conclusion of the settlement operations, and though it is perhaps too soon to express any definite opinion, the assessment seems to be working well, and there does not appear to have been any difficulty in collecting the revenue.

Many additions and alterations have been carried out in the Moti Bagh, where the Maharaja has now taken up his residence. A large wing has been added to the Rajindra Hospital. The Patiála water-works were completed during the year.

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population, 720,877; gross revenue, Rs. 30,72,000; army and police, 1,665; race of Chief, Daudputra; age of Chief, 5½.

Personal. 7. The young Nawab has enjoyed very much better health during this year.

General. 8. The Council of Regency, which now consists of the President and three Members, having continued to work harmoniously and with good results, was confirmed in August 1909.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor cut the first sod of the Khanpur-Chachrán Railway Line on the 24th January 1910, and it is hoped that the line will be completed about the beginning of next year.

The new college building has been completed and occupied during the year.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 282,003; gross revenue, Rs. 13,00,000; army and police, 1,739; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 31.

Personal. 9. The health of the Raja has been good.

General. 10. The *kharif* harvest, which promised to be good, was unfortunately much damaged by excessive rain and floods, but the *rabi* harvest was above the average.

A sub-division of 243 camels for service of Government during mobilisation has been registered in the State. The arrangements made and the class of animal registered appear to be very satisfactory.

Nothing has so far been settled as to the commencement of work on the Jínd-Pánipat Railway.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 297,949; gross revenue, Rs. 15,30,722; army and police, 1,480; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 66.

Personal. 11. The Raja has not been in very good health during the year, having suffered considerably from fever and asthma. The Tika Sahib, too, was in indifferent health and has now proceeded to England for a change and for treatment.

The Raja continues to supervise personally every department of the administration.

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 314,351; gross revenue, Rs. 25,00,000; army and police, 1,415; race of Chief, Ahluwalia Sikh; age of Chief, 37; tribute, Rs. 1,31,000.

Personal. 12. The Raja spent the summer of 1909 in Mussoorie. In February 1910 he left for Europe.

Administrative. 13. During his absence the business of the State is being carried on by the Administrative Council under the Presidency of Mr. L. French, I.C.S., whose services have been lent to the State.

MANDI.

Area, 1,200 square miles; population, 174,045; gross revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police, 691; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 26; tribute, Rs. 1,00,000.

Administrative. 14. The political situation of the State was not satisfactory at the beginning of the year under report. The popular discontent, which seemed to

have been the outcome not so much of oppression or injustice to individuals, as of some resentment against official corruption and mal-administration of public funds, culminated in a serious disturbance in May 1909, which necessitated the despatch of troops from Simla to Mandi, where the local officers and the Commissioner had already arrived. By this show of force order was quickly restored. Subsequently Tika Rajendra Pal, Extra Assistant Commissioner, was appointed adviser to the Raja, and M. Amar Singh, Tahsildar, was deputed to act as Wazir. The question of the future administration of the State is occupying the attention of Government.

15. The harvests during the year were good, as was the health of the people. General.

SIRMUR.

Area, 1,198 square miles; population, 135,687; gross revenue, Rs. 6,00,000; army and police, 628; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 43.

16. The administration of the State has been conducted as efficiently as usual. General.

17. The heir-apparent, Kanwar Amar Singh, was married in March 1910 to the daughter of H. E. Deb Shamsher Jang, Bahadur, ex-Prime Minister of Nepál, residing at Mussoorie. Personal.

MALER KOTLA.

Area, 167 square miles; population, 77,596; gross revenue, Rs. 7,28,562; army and police, 721; race of Chief, Sherwani Pathan; age of Chief, 29.

18. Nawab Ahmad Ali Khan continues to take much interest in the administration of the State. The Nawab's personal salute has now been raised from 9 to 11 guns. Personal.

19. The State proposes to undertake settlement operations in the near future. General.

FARIDKOT.

Area, 642 square miles; population, 124,912; gross revenue, Rs. 3,54,769; army and police, 470; race of Chief, Barar Jat; age of Chief, 13½.

20. Sardar Bahadur Dyal Singh, Man, Deputy Collector, Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department, Punjab, was appointed President of the Council of Administration in place of Risaldar Bahadur Sardar Partap Singh, retired. Administrative.

CHAMBA.

Area, 3,216 square miles; population, 127,834; gross revenue, Rs. 5,89,727; army and police, 419; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 41; tribute, Rs. 3,800.

21. The Raja continues to administer the State in a very satisfactory manner. Administrative.

22. The electric installation scheme is costing the Raja more than he anticipated, and has made very considerable demands on the resources of the State. General.

A low level road to Dalhousie entailing a bridge over the Ravi is under consideration, but it is doubtful whether funds will permit of its construction.

A military officer was, with the Raja's concurrence, deputed as an enumerator of mules in the State with reference to mobilisation schemes. He visited the State in October.

SUKET.

Area, 420 square miles; population, 54,676; gross revenue, Rs. 1,56,538; army and police, 85; race of Chief, Chandarbansi Rajput; age of Chief, 25.

23. Close attention is being paid by the Raja to all departments of Government. The system of land records, hitherto defective and confused, has been improved. A scheme for bringing under cultivation large areas of arid and waste land has been instituted. General.

KALSIA.

Area, 168 square miles; population, 67,181; gross revenue, Rs. 1,99,725; army and police, 168; race of Chief, Jat Sikh; age of Chief, 8.

24. The State continues to be managed by a Council under the control of the Commissioner, Delhi division. Administrative.

General. 25. A jail and a dispensary are to be built at Chachrauli, the capital of the State, at a cost of Rs. 18,000.

PATAUDI.

Area, 52 square miles; population, 21,933; gross revenue, Rs. 1,16,677; army and police, 64; race of Chief, Afghan; age of Chief, 50.

Administrative. 26. The Nawab has been put in charge of the Education and Military Departments of the State.

The Nawabzada Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Khan has been given the powers of a Magistrate of the 3rd Class in the State, appeals against his orders lying to the Manager.

LOHARU.

Area, 222 square miles; population, 15,229; gross revenue, Rs. 80,150; army and police, 59; race of Chief, Mughal; age of Chief, 50.

General. 27. The instalments of the Mamdot Estate loan are being paid regularly. Settlement operations have come to an end and the new assessment has been announced.

DUJANA.

Area, 100 square miles; population. 24,174; gross revenue, Rs. 77,170; army and police, 201; race of Chief, Pathan; age of Chief, 27; tribute, 50 troopers on requirement.

General. 28. Nawab Khurshaid Ali Khan himself manages the State.

A son and heir was born on 5th February 1910.

BILASPUR.

Area, 448 square miles; population, 90,873; gross revenue, Rs. 1,90,000; army and police, 198; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief 37; tribute, Rs. 8,000.

General. 29. The administration has proceeded smoothly. Settlement operations have been completed.

BASHAHR.

Area, 3,820 square miles; population, 80,572; gross revenue, Rs. 95,000; army and police, 13; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 72; tribute, Rs. 3,945.

General. 30. A murderous attack was made on Mr. Gibson, the Forest Officer, in charge of the Bashahr division, in August last. Of eight accused tried by the Superintendent, Hill States, seven were convicted and sentenced to various terms of transportation and imprisonment.

OTHER HILL STATES.

31. In Keonthal the management of the forests has been taken over by the Forest Department. The Thakur of Theog died in August, and was succeeded by his son Padam Chand. The settlement operations in Bhagat have been completed. The affairs of Rawin fell into disorder, and the Thakur applied for a Government official to be appointed Wazir. Sita Ram, a Government servant, was accordingly deputed to the State and is gradually restoring order.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

32. Peace was unbroken along the border throughout the year. There has been a marked diminution in the number of serious offences, murder, rape and theft, which is probably due to the deterrent effect of the adequate punishments inflicted in serious cases last year. The working of the jirgas and of the Border Military Police has been satisfactory.

9. Condition of the people.

33. With good harvests and high prices the year was one of general prosperity. Climatic conditions were much more favourable to health than in the previous year, and the province was spared another such visitation of malaria as created so much havoc in the autumn of 1908. The death-rate fell to a very much lower figure. The subject is dealt with in more detail in Chapter VI.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Realization of the revenue.— Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year 1st October 1908 to 30th September 1909.

Surveys.—

Surveys (other than land revenue).—General Report on the Operations of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1909.

Settlements.—Annual Report on the Settlement operations in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1909.

Land Records.—Report on the operations of the Department of Land Records, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1909.

Waste lands and Government Estates.—
1. Annual Report for the Chenab, Jhang, Chunián and Jhelum Colonies for the year ending 30th September 1909.
2. Land Revenue Report, *as above.*

Wards Estates.—Report on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1909.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.—Land Revenue Report *as above.* The Annual Report on the working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, XIII of 1900, is now incorporated in the Land Revenue Report.]

10. Realization of the Land Revenue.

General condition in 1908-09.

34. The spring of 1908 was remarkably dry, and the absence of rain interfered to some extent with sugarcane and cotton sowings. The monsoon, however, was fully established in the East Punjab by July 8th, and spread rapidly over the province. The rainfall was generally very considerably in excess of normal. Taking area and yield together the kharif crop was about 20 per cent. above normal. Owing to the abundant rain in August and September conditions were favourable for rabi sowings, but they were hampered by the prevalence of fever, and the area available was restricted owing to the large acreage under kharif crops. The winter rains were disappointing. The harvest was about normal.

Fixed land revenue.

35. The fixed land revenue roll of the province for the year was less by Rs. 1,05,023 than that of the previous year, and stood at Rs. 2,05,46,923. The reduction is entirely due to the substitution of fluctuating assessment for the previous fixed demand in the districts of Gujránwála, Shahpur, Miánwáli and Lyallpur.

Out of the revenue demand 200 lakhs or 97 per cent. were recovered. Fifteen districts recovered the unsuspended recoverable demand in full. But for the necessity of suspending nearly 4 lakhs in the Delhi division the results would have been even better. The collections appear to have been made generally without difficulty.

The previous year closed with a balance outstanding of some 61 lakhs of rupees. Slightly over 20 lakhs were collected chiefly out of suspended arrears. The total outstandings were reduced to 42 lakhs, of which 38¼ lakhs are recoverable. This is a great improvement on last year.

Nearly 5 lakhs of the current demand had to be suspended during the year. The Gurgaon district, which had a very poor kharif crop, is responsible for more than half of this.

Fluctuating land revenue.

36. The current demand of fluctuating land revenue amounted to Rs. 53 lakhs. This represents 20 per cent. of the total land revenue demand and is the largest amount ever reported under this head. The increase was due to the favourable character of the seasons, and to the increase in the area to which fluctuating assessments were applied. Of this large demand it is satisfactory to find that over 99 per cent. was collected, and in no case did outstandings amount to over Rs. 5,000.

The previous year closed with a total balance outstanding of Rs. 86,811. Of this Rs. 45,309 have been collected, mainly out of suspended canal advantage rate in Ferozepore. The amount to be collected at the close of the year was Rs. 42,400.

The area under permanent fluctuating assessment continues to increase. The advantages of a fixed assessment are so great that the burden of proof rests strongly on any one proposing to replace it by a fluctuating assessment in any tract. But there are large areas, chiefly in the west of the province where the agricultural conditions are so precarious that fluctuation is the only plan likely to be successful and where it is acceptable to the people themselves. In the Delhi division, however, it is unpopular.

Miscellaneous land revenue.

37. The large demand of Rs. 19,51,569 was formulated under the various heads of land revenue other than ordinary collections, and of this all but Rs. 47,446 was actually collected. Over 8½ lakhs was obtained from the sale of Government estates in the Chenab Colony districts, from the Sidhnai estates in Multán, and from the Crown land in Delhi. A considerable sum was also realized from the rent of village sites in the Chenab Colony districts.

Miscellaneous.

38. New rules regarding the copying agency and copying department were under preparation. The increasing popularity of the system of obtaining copies by post is a good sign, as the general objection in the past has been the suspicion that applications by letter will not receive attention.

Minor canals have done well, and nearly all show a satisfactory balance sheet. During the year under report new rules have been sanctioned for the Gurgaon embankments. These works had been erected at considerable expense, and the district board proved unable to repay the loan made from Provincial revenues. Government has therefore taken over their management.

Government has now sanctioned the employment of an establishment of well-borers in the province, under the Director of Agriculture, and rules for their control adapted to the conditions of the Punjab from those in force in the United Provinces have been issued.

11. Survey.

Topographical work.

39. No. 9 Party finished their survey operations in the Dera Gházi Khan, Muzaffargarh and Miánwáli districts. No. 14 Party carried out triangulation work in the Jhelum and Ráwalpindi districts as well as 2-inch surveys there and in Attock. No. 18 Party did triangulation and survey work in the Miánwáli, Shahpur and Attock districts. No. 12 Party was also employed in the Attock district.

Traverse survey

40. The traversing and fixing of base lines over the Bari Doab desert area was finished during the year. Considerable difficulties were experienced owing to the unsatisfactory manner in which the old traverse framework to which all this new work was attached had been closed.

Special arrangements were made this year by the riverain section stationed at Lahore for utilising the riverain maps and assisting Settlement Officers in getting all difficulties cleared up on the ground. A definite scheme was drawn up, and accepted by the Settlement Commissioner, for still further

expediting and cheapening the work of future settlements, and a small selected settlement staff was given a special training for the purpose. An officer was specially appointed towards the close of the last recess season to overhaul all the traverse data of the Punjab and advise riverain and other parties as to the best way of improving their framework.

41. The verification in connection with the Gurgaon settlement of the district boundary, where it marches with Native States, was nearly completed. The Financial Commissioner discussed with the Hon'ble Mr. Baillie in March last the question of a fixed boundary on the Jumna between the Punjab and the United Provinces, but nothing has so far been settled. Boundary demarcation.

12. Settlements.

42. Settlement operations were in progress during the year in the Gurgaon, Karnál, Rohtak, Delhi, Hissar, Gurdáspur and Ludhiána districts. The Ludhiána settlement was commenced in November and the Gurgaon settlement was completed at the end of September.

The total increase in land revenue obtained in consequence of the assessments sanctioned amounts to Rs. 7,36,000 per annum. There has been a marked improvement in the progress of measurement work, and as regards the revision of records, the experience of the last year has shown that settlement operations can be brought to an end more expeditiously if the record of each village is written up and finally disposed of as soon as the field survey is complete. That this system gives more accurate results than the other by which the record is written up at the tahsil head-quarters by the patwari months after the completion of the field maps can scarcely be doubted.

The question of the establishment of a close connection between the divisional and settlement revenue staffs, a matter the importance of which has long been recognised, is again engaging the attention of Government. The reduction of the number of settlements in progress has created a position of some difficulty, and there are, besides, many advantages in amalgamating the two establishments. The problem is, however, by no means an easy one.

13. Land Records.

43. The total number of patwaris has dropped slightly, and now stands at 8,790. Of this number 43 per cent. have passed the Middle School Examination, and 29 per cent. are members of agricultural tribes. These figures are an improvement on those for last year, *viz.* 41 per cent. and 27 per cent. It is satisfactory to see that agriculturists are receiving a fair share of nominations for posts so closely connected with agriculture, while at the same time the number of Hindus and Muhammadans among the new candidates is nearly equal. Patwaris.

An important question which will in the not very distant future call for settlement is that of the pay of these officers. In more than one district it is reported that there is a difficulty in procuring suitable candidates. It should, however, be remembered that the doubling of the patwari's share of the fee levied for certain mutations and the raising of that fee have probably added from Re. 1 to Rs. 2 per mensem to his emoluments. Their salary is already better than that of many school masters who have worse prospects and fewer amenities.

Another serious problem is the provision of patwarkhanas. It is of the highest importance that the patwari should reside within his own circle, but the patwarkhanas become daily fewer and more ruinous. Heavy falls of rain did much damage in several districts. A scheme submitted by the Director of Land Records in which he proposed that Government should pay rent for houses for patwaris was negatived in May last, primarily owing to

the existing financial pressure. It appears, however, doubtful whether Government should in all districts provide houses for patwaris. In newly colonized areas that may be generally necessary; in settled tracts experience has frequently shown that it is very difficult to get patwaris to live in Government patwarkhanas. One solution of the difficulty may lie in making the provision and maintenance of patwarkhanas one of the functions of the village panchayats if and when they are revived.

Records-of-rights.

44. There has been a great improvement in the checking of jamabandis by Deputy Commissioners and their Revenue Assistants; the number checked rose from 500 to 2,039. In fact the jamabandis now filed in many districts, though doubtless capable of improvement, are in general well up to date. Recent experience, moreover, proves that we can greatly lessen the duration of that part of settlement work which is concerned with the records-of-rights, and furnishes striking evidence of the value of the reorganisation of our land records arrangements which was commenced 25 years ago.

General.

45. Complaints have again been made of the practice of summoning patwaris and kanungos to courts unnecessarily. Deputy Commissioners have accordingly been instructed to take steps in consultation with the District Judge to put a stop to any uncalled for interruption in the work of their subordinates.

14. Waste Lands and Government Estates.

Chenab Colony.

46. The year was one of the most successful in the history of the colony, owing to the exceptional yield of the rabi harvest, and the continuance of very high prices.

The soil in the Toba Tek Singh tahsil, which looked very unpromising, continues to improve every year and does not lie much behind the higher parts of the Bar in fertility. On the other hand the growth of *kallar* elsewhere is a cause of anxiety, and the search for a remedy one of the most pressing matters for investigation by the Agricultural Department.

Administrative control of this colony was made over during the year to the Commissioners of the divisions in which it is included. The complete transfer of the charge of the villages of the Jhang district which form part of this colony to the Deputy Commissioner of that district, which took place on October 1st, 1909, like the transfer of control to Commissioners above referred to, is a step towards assimilating the administration of colony areas to that of an ordinary district.

The plan by which village headmen in the Chenab Colony are required to keep a mare for mule-breeding has proved successful.

During the year full proprietary rights were acquired in 14,466 acres, chiefly in the Lyallpur district. From the district reports it appears that about 9¼ lakhs were paid on this account. This marked increase over last year's figures is mainly due to the purchase of title by yeomen and capitalists in response to the warning given to them in July 1909 that an increased purchase price would be incurred if they deferred purchase until after the introduction of the new assessments.

Jhelum Colony.

47. The post of Colonization Officer was abolished on 1st April 1909, his duties being taken over by the Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur. It has been found necessary to retain for the present the services of an Assistant Colonization Officer, assisted by a Colony Tahsildar and three Colony Naib Tahsildars, who are supernumerary to the ordinary district establishment. As in the case of the Chenab Colony the crops were excellent and prices ruled high.

The results of the horse-breeding operations continue to be highly satisfactory, but it is noteworthy that the larger horse-breeding grantees who were selected for their interest and experience in horse-breeding are nearly all failures; to the peasant grantees is to be attributed the success of the experi-

ment. The reason is not far to seek; the *sufed posh* grantee is exempted from residence and usually only pays a fleeting visit to his grant two or three times a year, leaving his valuable mares and young stock in the charge of paid servants. It is a matter for consideration whether the time has not come for an alteration in the arrangements.

Progress in allotment continues to be somewhat slow, but a strenuous endeavour was made to allot to some of the remaining disappointed grantees the balance of partially allotted chaks. In the land still available are included some squares of very fair quality, and it is expected that many will be glad to take them up. It may be remarked that a grantee who takes his grant now in an already settled and prosperous village has to undergo none of the hardships which the pioneer colonists had to suffer. The land has already been under cultivation, tenants are plentiful, and the initial expenses are comparatively small.

There were in all 431 grantees who had yet to receive their land, and the number of squares required for them was 1,307.

48. Ninety-five per cent. of the area allotted bore a matured crop, and the colonists had a most successful year. **Chunian Colony.**

The preparation of the record-of-rights for the colony has been carried through with commendable promptitude.

Very good progress was made in building houses. The abadis are now in good condition and are kept fairly clean. Wells have been sunk where they were not sunk before.

The only important allotment was the distribution to peasants of adjoining villages of such land as was not required for the Lower Bari Doab Canal, when its alignment was finally fixed. Except for the Rakh Chor land the unallotted areas are now very small.

49. Some 50 shops have been opened in the Jhang Mandi, which enjoys a fair degree of prosperity. The Shah Jiwana Mandi has, however, so far failed to thrive, and it is doubtful whether any improvement can be expected unless the tract surrounding it is properly irrigated. **Jhang Colony.**

50. The working of the Chos Act in Hoshiarpur is again fairly satisfactory, but the problem of the denudation of the lower hills has now to be faced in several districts. A committee was appointed to deal with the whole question. Meanwhile in Hoshiarpur itself it is proposed that Government shall take practical steps to deal with one Cho throughout its length and ascertain whether the practical and legal difficulties are as great as has been anticipated. **Other Government Waste.**

15. Wards Estates.

51. The number of estates under management was 51 as against 48 last year, 4 estates having been released and 7 new ones taken over. The total income of all the estates is over 20 lakhs of rupees.

The most interesting feature of the year's working has been the continued delegation of powers in connection with the Court of Wards to Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners. The delegation already made is so wide that much further cannot be suggested in response to the proposals of the Decentralisation Commission. The change of policy is reported to have worked well.

The accounts of all estates with an income of over Rs. 5,000 were audited by the Examiner of Local Funds. These audits are a valuable aid to Deputy Commissioners.

16. Revenue and rent-paying classes.

52. The number of tribes notified under the Land Alienation Act has been extended to include those who, though numerically weak, are really agriculturists and require protection. This is a distinct innovation, but there is no doubt it is a wise step. **Land Alienation Act.**

Inquiries were made during the year as to the question of "benami" transactions, but such evasions of the Act do not appear to be very numerous. They should however be carefully watched.

On sales agricultural tribes gained 5,781 acres, while in the case of mortgages the area redeemed exceeded the area mortgaged by 103,631 acres. The effect of the Act for some years was to prevent further loss, but there is no manner of doubt but that the old land-owning tribes are now year by year recovering part of what had passed out of their hands before 1901.

Deputy Commissioners have now been authorised to sanction alienations to money-lenders without reference to the Commissioner. Steps have also been taken to facilitate the transfer of small plots of land to artizans, and a general form of mortgage required under section 9 (4) of the Act has been issued for guidance.

Tenants and rents.

53. Litigation between landlord and tenant was again insignificant though Hoshiárpur again proved a striking exception. The hope entertained last year that the burst of litigation was over was not fulfilled. However, seeing that the applications for enhancement are almost invariably successful, it can hardly be urged that the landlords are unnecessarily harassing their tenants.

Ejectments are only numerous in districts where settlement operations are in progress or are likely to take place shortly.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

54. Sixteen declarations of a rule of integral descent were notified. In eleven cases the notifications were in accordance with a rule found to prevail, and in five instruments of acceptance of the rule of primogeniture were obtained.

Out of a total of 429 cases outstanding, the jagirdars refused to accept the rule of primogeniture in 319. Negotiations are pending in the bulk of the remaining cases, but progress is slow and naturally is slower as time goes on.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

[Detailed information and statistics on the subjects included in this chapter will be found in the following reports :—

Police—(1) Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1909.

(2) Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1909.

Criminal Justice—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1909.

Prisons.—(1) Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1909.

(2) Annual Report on the Reformatory School, Delhi, for 1909.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1909.

Registration.—Note on the Registration Returns of the Punjab for the year 1909.

Local Boards Administration.—District Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1909-10.

And in Statistics of British India, Part VI—Administrative and Judicial, and Part VIII—Local Funds.]

17. Legislating Authority.

(See pages 83 and 84 of the report for the year 1901-02 and remarks below under section 18).

18. Course of Legislation.

55. In common with the other provinces possessing Legislative Councils, very important changes were effected during the year in the constitution and procedure of the Punjab Legislative Council. These will be noticed in detail under section 17 (Legislating Authority) in the next decennial report; for the present it will suffice to say that under the provisions of the Indian Councils Act, 1909 (9 Edward 7, Ch. 4), the maximum number of nominated and elected members has been fixed at 30. This Act came into force on 15th November 1909 under Government of India, Home Department, notification No. 4212 of that date, and on the same day regulations for the nomination and election of members were notified (Government of India, Legislative Department, notification No. 19, dated 15th November 1909). The Council as at present constituted shall ordinarily consist of 24 members, of whom 5 are elected and 19 nominated. Not more than 10 nominated members may be officials. In addition there may be 2 nominated expert members. These numbers do not include the Lieutenant-Governor. Punjab Council.

The 5 elected members are elected as follows :—

(1) By the Punjab University, 1.

(2) By Municipal and Cantonment Committees, 3.

(3) By the Punjab Chamber of Commerce, 1.

During the year April 1909 to March 1910 three meetings of the Council were held. The first meeting was on the 3rd July 1909 at Simla, when a Bill to amend the Punjab Courts Act, XVIII of 1884, was introduced and passed. This Bill amended the law of appeal governing original criminal cases heard by the Chief Court and has passed into law as Punjab Act I of 1909. The second meeting, being the first meeting after the enlargement of the Council, took place at Government House, Lahore, on 3rd January 1910. After the Hon'ble Members had been duly sworn in, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor addressed the Council. No other business was transacted. A third meeting of the Council was held on March 12th at Lahore. A Bill to amend the

Law of Arbitration was introduced and a motion that it be published and circulated for opinion was passed. The Revised Financial Statement for the ensuing year was presented to the Council.

Prior to the reconstitution of theCouncil the following changes took place among the Hon'ble Members:—The Hon'ble Sir James Wilson, K.C.S.I., the Hon'ble Mr. R. E. Younghusband, C.S.I., and the Hon'ble Mr. E. D. Maclagan, C.S.I., resigned their seats, and the Hon'ble Mr. W. R. H. Merk, C.S.I., Mr. A. Meredith, Mr. M. W. Fenton, Mr. W. B. Gordon, C.I.E., and Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Shafi, Barrister-at-Law, were appointed.

The enlarged Council was constituted as follows:—

PRESIDENT.

His Honour Sir Louis William Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Lieutenant-Governor.

MEMBERS.

I.—Nominated Members.

The Hon'ble Nawab Bahram Khan, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. P. Burt, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Lieutenant-Colonel H. S. P. Davies.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. H. Diack, C.V.O.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. McC. Douie, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. M. W. Fenton.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. C. Godley.
The Hon'ble Mr. W. B. Gordon.
The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Hari Chand.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Ker, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. E. D. Maclagan, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Khan Sahib Sayad Mahdi Shah.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. Meredith.
The Hon'ble Malik Mubariz Khan, Tiwana.
The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Shafi.
The Hon'ble Sardar Partap Singh, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Lala Sultan Singh.
The Hon'ble Sardar Bahadur Sundar Singh, Majithia.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. P. Tollinton.

II.—Elected Members.

The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Lala Shadi Lal, Barrister-at-Law (Punjab University).
The Hon'ble Khwaja Ahad Shah of Ludhiána, for the Cis-Sutlej group.
The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Khwaja Yusaf Shah of Amritsar, for the Central group.
The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Seth Adamji Mamooji of Ráwalpindi, for the Western group.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. Currie (Punjab Chamber of Commerce).

The Hon'ble Mr. Fenton subsequently resigned his seat and Colonel T. E. L. Bate, C.I.E., was appointed in his place.

The elections for the municipalities and cantonments were very closely contested; in one case the election was decided by lot, the votes being equal.

19. Police.

Crime and working.

56. The main feature of the year as regards cognizable crime is an almost universal decrease under the various heads, the total number of true cases amounting to 57,258, a decrease of 3,859 compared with the figure for 1908

and a smaller total than that of any year in the past five. This favourable result is probably in the main due to the serious epidemic of malaria which prostrated even the criminal classes in the closing period of 1908, the effects of which lasted into the first five months of 1909, and to the favourable nature of the seasons in the latter year, which kept the people occupied in agricultural and other cognate pursuits. No doubt too a more careful attention to preventive measures contributed to the same result.

As usual the Mánjha tract has maintained its unenviable reputation as the most turbulent in the province, and it is clear that a strong administration of the criminal law there is essential if the people are to be kept in hand.

Though murders decreased by 14, the total number, 423, is still larger than that of any other year during the last five except 1908. While there was a fall in the percentage of convictions to cases admitted to be true from 44 to 39½ per cent., the percentage of convictions to cases tried remained the same in both years, *viz.*, 57. It is satisfactory to be able to record the success of the arrangements made in the Ferozepore district for the prompt sending of cases for trial with the evidence available. It is to be hoped that the statistics for the current year will show equal improvement throughout the province from the general adoption of similar measures.

A marked and satisfactory decrease has occurred in the number of dakaities, true cases totalling 36 as against 75 in 1908, *viz.*, 11 in the Eastern Range, 10 in the Central and 15 in the Western. The decrease in true cases has, however, been accompanied by some falling off in the amount of success attained by the Police, 36 per cent. of the cases only ending in convictions, compared with 48 per cent. in 1908; but the proportion of pending cases to true cases was more than twice as great at the end of 1909 as it was at the end of 1908, so there is a probability of the want of success as shown by these percentages being more a matter of statistics than a reality.

Cattle theft and cases relating to stolen property are the only heads under which crime shows any material increase, but even here the increases are not large,—29 cases under the former and 70 under the latter head. Measures are now being devised to cope with the stealing of timber from the Chenab and Jhelum rivers, which appears to be almost assuming the proportions of an organised industry.

Railway Police.

57. The orders of the Government of India under the Police Reorganization Scheme regarding the division of the Government Railway Police, Punjab, into two separate charges, each under a Superintendent of Railway Police, were given effect to on the 24th November 1909, when the charge was divided into the Northern and Southern Districts, both with head-quarters at Lahore.

Finger Print Bureau.

58. The work of the Finger Print Bureau at Phillaur continues to expand, and it is interesting to learn of the help which has been given in an increasingly large number of civil cases. This is a branch of the work which, with a view to furthering the ends of justice, it is our duty to foster and encourage. The question of increasing the personnel of the Bureau to enable it to cope with the ever-increasing volume of work is under consideration.

Rural Police.

(See pages 88 and 89 of the report for 1901-02.)

Criminal Tribes.

59. There was an increase of 704 in the number of persons exempted from roll call. Exemptions were freely granted to the Baurias of Ferozepore, the Pakhiwaras and Harnis of Gurdáspur, Akla Hayat Belochis of Jhang, and also to Sansis in almost all districts. Only 91 absentees remained to be proclaimed at the close of the year. Most of the absentees have obtained land in Bahawalpur State and are now earning an honest livelihood. The arrangements for the extradition of absentees from Native States have worked well. The Giloi Belochis of Lyallpur, the Minas of Gurgaon, the Sansis of Lahore, Jhang, Amritsar, Lyallpur and Montgomery, the Baurias and the Harnis are all reported

to have shown signs of improvement. On the whole the district reports show that the Act has been intelligently and humanely worked. Decided progress has been made with the reformation of several tribes, and the outlook generally is brighter than it was during the preceding year. It is hoped that the amendment of the Act which will furnish the means of dealing with unregistered wandering tribes and gangs will at the same time result in the better control of the settled and registered tribes.

20. Criminal Justice.

General statistics.

60. The year was one of comparative prosperity, and in consequence, as was natural, there was a considerable decline in the number of offences against property. At the same time the Magistrates from some of the more turbulent districts report a rise in the number of offences committed against the person. The number of offences reported under the Indian Penal Code fell from 138,939 to 135,038, while the decrease in the total number of offences reported under all Acts amounted roughly to 5,000 cases. In so far, however, as the total figures relate to offences under local and special laws (the number of which for the year was 52,618) it is only just to point out that they are highly misleading. A very large number of offences under such Acts ought to be excluded from any general review of a year's crime. It is impossible to judge of the criminality of a year or a town by totals comprising the number of offences which may have been committed against the Vaccination Act, the building provisions of a Municipal Act or even the Hackney Carriages Act.

There has been a serious decrease of some 2,700 in the number of cases summarily dismissed. Special efforts have from time to time been made to induce the Magistracy to make a more extended use of the power given to them in this respect by the law, but so far with only moderate success.

First offenders.

61. First offenders, it may be noticed with regret, have begun to realise that they have suffered very little by being dealt with under section 562, Criminal Procedure Code. The attention of all concerned has been invited to the necessity of carefully complying with the provisions of the law as to a scrutiny of the previous character of the offender, and no less than 142 proceedings were conducted against persons who had been given the benefit of the section in question as against 92 in the previous year.

Establishments.

62. In addition to the 12 Sessions Judges regularly employed additional Sessions Judges were employed in 6 divisions for varying periods.

Four new Sessions Judges were appointed during the year. They are located at Campbellpur, Lahore, Ludhiána and Hissar.

Percentage of convictions.

63. In only 25 per cent. of the cases disposed of convictions were obtained, but it is clear that these statistics are fallacious as they include cases where the accused does not appear, or has died or cases withdrawn or compounded.

21. Prisons.

General,

64. The year 1909 was in many respects a notable one in the history of prison administration in the Punjab. The economical policy of concentration which had long ago been adopted by Government in theory was brought into prominence by the abolition of the Simla district jail as a jail and its conversion into a lock-up, and by the conversion of the Amritsar district jail into a subsidiary jail. At the same time sanction was accorded to the conversion of the district jails at Lahore and Siálkot into central jails. This will, it is hoped, relieve the overcrowding that has marked several of the larger institutions during the year.

Convict admissions.

65. The number of convicts imprisoned fell from 16,816 in 1908 to 15,973. In spite of the action taken last year with reference to the punishment with imprisonment of persons under 16 years of age little or no improvement was attained. Until the Delhi Reformatory is enlarged there are, no doubt, difficulties in dealing with such cases; still there is ample scope for a more extended use of the discretionary powers conferred by the law on Magistrates, and the attention of the Chief Court was again drawn to the question.

66. A noteworthy feature in the statistics of punishment is the continued high percentage of previously convicted prisoners sentenced in the Siálkot district. This may be due to the criminal tribes resident within the district, and it is to be hoped that the settlement which the Salvation Army are about to inaugurate in the centre of these tribes will in time lead to a reduction in the number of habitual offenders sentenced in this district. **Habitual offenders.**

67. A serious assault was committed at Montgomery on the Superintendent, Captain Clements, and his Jailor, and other acts of violence were reported at Ferozepore and Karnál, but these episodes do not reflect upon the general body of prisoners, who are quiet, well behaved and amenable, though not, it must be confessed, with any great leaning towards industry. **Discipline.**

The new remission system was in force throughout the year. It is simple enough for the most ignorant to understand; it entails but little clerical work; it is comprehensive, as it embraces every person sentenced; it is elastic; and places the power of giving or withholding in the hands of the Superintendent; a system in short which, if worked with reasonable intelligence, must prove a power for good in a prison.

68. The total expenditure on guarding and maintenance during the year was Rs. 9,47,312 against Rs. 10,05,688 in 1908. The cost of establishment fell by Rs. 16,937 to Rs. 31,14,804. There was a considerable reduction in dietary charges. This is in the main due to easier prices and a reduced population. **Expenditure.**

69. The cash earnings show an increase from Rs. 1,24,375 to Rs. 1,74,369 and the earnings per head from Rs. 11-10-0 to Rs. 16-12-0. This is the best result ever attained in the province, and compares very favourably with those reached in other provinces. Much of it is due to orders issued in April regarding the supply of jail manufactured articles to Government offices. The operations of the Lahore central jail in manufacturing quinine tablets were particularly successful. A stall was set up in the Lahore Exhibition and exhibits displayed. This stall attracted considerable attention from the public, and 39,000 tablets were sold. **Income.**

70. The death rate rose from 23·41 *per mille* to 24·84 in the year under review. This figure is of course not excessive, but it is evident that the question of combating tubercular disease is one of pressing necessity. To some extent the ravages of tubercle in jails are merely the reflection of the hold that it is getting of the population outside the prison walls. Still there is some ground for considering that there is something in jail life that predisposes to the disease, and the matter deserves earnest consideration. **Vital statistics.**

22. Civil Justice.

71. The number of original suits instituted increased from 189,150 in 1908 to 210,894. Thus the total number of suits has almost reached the figure of 214,622 which represents the number of original suits instituted in 1903, the year before the passing of the Punjab Limitation of Loans Act, 1904. There is no valid ground for supposing that the tale of civil institutions will not continue to increase till the figure for 1903 is equalled and exceeded. Possibly the draft Panchayat Bill, which since the close of the year was forwarded for the consideration of the Government of India, may effect some reduction in the work of the courts so far as the less important cases are concerned. **Institutions.**

72. It is satisfactory that while the number of original suits for disposal rose from 221,800 to 248,600, the pending file at the close of the year was 1,500 less that in 1908. The Judicial Branch of the service had in the meantime of course been strengthened. **Disposals.**

In spite of a decrease of 15 in the number of appeals instituted in the Chief Court the pending file rose by 213. The continuance of the appointment of an additional temporary 6th Judge has been sanctioned till the beginning of the vacation of 1911.

Honorary Civil Judges decided 15,972 small causes, 1,558 land suits and 1,530 unclassed suits, a very considerable rise over the figures for 1908. There are grounds for thinking that this agency for the disposal of suits might be more extensively utilised.

Execution of decrees.

73. One of the most salutary features of the year's working is the improvement in the execution of decrees. 47 lakhs were realised as against 40 lakhs in 1908. Particular success was obtained in Hoshiárpur. The question of directing attention to this class of work by an additional column in the monthly returns is under consideration.

General.

74. There has been a steady rise since 1903 in the number of pre-emption cases. In that year the figure was 2,977; it now stands at 4,743. The new Act has extended the right of pre-emption considerably, and the number of persons now entitled to pre-empt is very much greater than it was. Several officers allude to the speculative and collusive character of many of these cases. Collusive suits are generally for the benefit of the vendee and to prejudice a *bonâ-fide* pre-emptor. Speculative suits are becoming an intolerable method of blackmail. The defects of the Provincial Insolvency Act and of the Guardians and Wards Act were discussed at length in several of the district reports.

An important point dealt with by the Hon'ble Judges in their report relates to the necessity of extreme carefulness in the earlier stages of a case. This is necessary for both Bench and Bar, and a good grasp of the facts of the case before going into court often enables a Judge to reduce the time spent over it by more than half. It is to be hoped that more attention will in future be paid to this matter.

23. Registration.

Compulsory registration.

75. There was again a very considerable increase in the number of deeds registered of which the registration was compulsory. The total number was 78,760 as compared with 71,354 last year. The most reasonable explanation of the rise in the number of mortgages is that people are taking advantage of the high prices of land and of its produce to redeem part of their holdings by the remortgage of the rest at a higher rate per acre.

Optional registrations.

76. Optional registrations have again reverted to their normal decline after the recovery during the last year due to special causes.

General.

77. Registration income has again risen by Rs. 29,106 to Rs. 3,22,486. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,42,805 or Rs. 275 less than last year.

The establishment remained practically unaltered. The office at Nárowál was closed and a new honorary sub-registrar was appointed at Talagang. In Hoshiárpur one Registrar fell hopelessly in arrears with the attestation of deeds during the rush of work in May and June and resorted to the very objectionable practice of taking the thumb marks of persons to the backs of deeds and making rough memoranda thereon, leaving the endorsements to be filled in at leisure. The lesson is that Registrars cannot be too prompt in appointing temporary muharrirs before the summer rush begins.

It was decided during the year to leave both the registration of deeds and the mutation of rights in the records of rights on their present footing, and the proposal to elaborate mutation proceedings so as to dispense with the registration of deeds dealing with agricultural land was dropped.

24. Local Boards Administration.

Elections.

78. Elections to district boards continue to arouse very little interest. In Amritsar there were 26 candidates for 27 seats. In Delhi no candidate was forthcoming for one of the two vacancies that occurred, and the same diffidence was noticeable in Ambála. Hoshiárpur has relapsed into its normal apathy, and there was only a contest for one seat out of eight.

Meetings.

79. The number of meetings increased owing to the recent orders of Government directing that boards are to meet six times in the year. Attendance has improved. The system of holding district board meetings at tahsil head-quarters is gaining in popularity, and might with advantage be extended.

Working of the Boards.

80. The working of the boards has been smooth and uneventful. In two trifling cases only—in Jhang and Jhelum—was the interference of the Commissioner required. In pursuance of the policy of decentralisation the funds

available for the construction of feeder roads were made over to Commissioners to distribute over the districts of their divisions in accordance with their needs. Some professional assistance may have to be given to Commissioners to enable them to carry out their work of control more thoroughly, but in this way it is hoped responsibility will be placed on the authorities most directly interested and unnecessary centralisation will be prevented.

It is to be hoped that the importance of tree-planting will not be lost sight of; it is noteworthy, for instance, that Ferozepore spent less than half its budget allotment under this head for the year. The system adopted in Delhi of using the compound of every district board rest-house as a nursery for young trees is admirable and inexpensive.

25. Municipal Administration.

New municipalities established and old municipalities abolished.

81. The process of converting the smaller municipalities into notified areas continues. During the year Kalánaur and Sujánpur were turned into notified areas. No new municipality was established, but new notified areas were constituted in Fatahjang and Hasan Abdál (Attock district), Pattoki Mandi (Lahore), Bhucho (Ferozepore), and Bhalwal (Shahpur).

Elections.

82. The elections aroused very little keenness in the province generally. In the Lahore division there were only 6 contests among 38 vacancies. There were no contests at all in the districts of Ráwalpindi, Attock, Shahpur and Miánwáli. In the Multán division 19 vacancies produced 3 contests. In Jullundur and in parts of the Delhi division, however, the fact that groups of committees elect a member to the Legislative Council aroused considerable interest in the elections. A question of some importance which was mooted during the year was that of raising the property qualification. It will be considered further if necessary.

Meetings.

83. Attendance at meetings was fairly regular. Delhi heads the list with 70 meetings, followed by Ambála with 57 and Simla with 56. Among the smaller towns, Bhera, 28, and Sáhiwál, 27, are conspicuous.

Taxation.

84. Octroi maintains its position as the main source of municipal revenue. The result of the opinions expressed on the report of the United Provinces Committee is that, as far as the Punjab is concerned, the prospect of abolishing octroi must be relegated to the distant future. The tax is not generally unpopular, whereas the only possible substitutes, house and profession taxes, are highly unpopular. The proposal of the Lahore Committee to impose a quit tax was defeated owing to the refusal of the North-Western Railway to co-operate. A scheme for imposing a terminal tax, however, is under consideration. The revision of octroi schedules which began in 1905 is now nearly complete, and efforts will be made to expedite the revision of those remaining. As to the working of the tax, it is inevitable that the cost of collection should vary in inverse proportion to the size and prosperity of the town. As compared with last year, the cost of collection has fallen considerably. Dharmkot, for instance, which last year paid 42 per cent. of its octroi for collection, now gets it collected for 26 per cent. The smaller municipalities, it is gratifying to find, are paying more attention to refunds. A liberal system of refunds is, indeed, the only justification for the retention of octroi. At the same time every precaution should be taken against fraud. Complaints have been made of claims for refund having been put forward on the re-export of articles imported duty-free by post. In such cases it may be necessary to insist that original payment of duty should be proved.

Miscellaneous.

85. Drainage schemes are engaging the attention of a number of municipal committees, especially in the Lahore division. Great improvements were effected at Amritsar, and a comprehensive scheme which can be carried out in compartments has been framed at Lahore. Government has provided these two cities with whole-time Health Officers, and some improvement in their sanitary condition should result.

The preparation of a record of rights for the nazul lands round Delhi is an interesting and important departure. Some reliable record of title is desirable in many municipal towns, and the question is engaging the attention of Government.

26. Military (Volunteers.)

Strength and distribution of Volunteer Forces.

86. The strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1910 is reported to have been as follows:—

Corps.	Company.	Station.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficients.	Sergeant Instructors.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	8	...	...	8	8	4
	A	Lahore	3	15	51	69	69	...
	B	Ambála	2	4	46	52	52	...
	C	Ráwalpindi	2	6	64	72	72	...
	D R½	Pesháwar	1	2	26	29	29	...
	D L½	Amritsar	2	2	15	19	18	...
	...	Delhi	...	4	7	11	10	...
	E	Lyallpur	...	2	18	20	20	...
		Multán	1	3	4	8	6	...
		Jhang	...	...	3	3	3	...
		Sargodha	...	...	4	4	3	...
		Montgomery	...	1	6	7	5	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	84	85	85	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	3	...	...	3	...	...
		Total ...	23	39	328	390	380	4
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	11	...	...	11	11	10
	A, B, C and Cadet ½ Company	Lahore	9	40	250	299	263	...
	D	Ráwalpindi	4	9	138	151	145	...
	E	Amritsar	2	9	45	56	56	...
	F	Delhi	3	7	61	71	71	...
	G and H	Murree	3	17	137	157	157	...
	I	Pesháwar	3	9	79	91	88	...
	K	Ferozepore	2	10	65	77	73	...
	L	Srínagar	3	8	71	82	77	...
	M	Siálkot	3	5	38	46	44	...
	...	Reservists	2	...	135	137	88	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	22	...	...	22	...	...
		Total ...	67	114	1,019	1,200	1,073	10
Simla Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	3
	A, B, C, D, E	Simla	13	42	321	376	376	...
	F	Sanáwar	3	9	119	131	131	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	14	14	14	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Officers ...	14	...	...	14	...	...
		Total ...	39	51	454	544	530	3
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	6	...	...	6	6	12
	C, D, H	Lahore	16	38	446	500	471	...
	A	Karáchi Cantonment	5	10	59	74	73	...
	B	Multán	3	9	94	106	104	...
	E	Ambála	4	12	132	148	141	...
	F	Saháranpur	1	7	131	139	139	...
	G	Kotri	...	4	78	82	82	...
	I	Quetta	1	9	86	96	96	...
	K	Ráwalpindi	6	19	107	132	131	...
	L	Sukkur	...	13	94	107	106	...
	M	Karáchi City	2	3	54	59	59	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	38	38	38	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Members ...	8	...	...	8	...	...
		Total ...	52	124	1,319	1,495	1,446	12

Inspections.

87. The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifle Corps and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in February 1910 and the Simla Volunteer Rifles once in 1909.

The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV.
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Agriculture.—(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1910.

(2) Annual Report of the Lyallpur Agricultural Station for the autumn and spring harvests, 1909-10.

(3) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1909-10.

(4) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1909.

(5) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1910.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the weather of the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1909-10.

Horticulture.—Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1910.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1909-10.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Reports on the working of the Dandot Colliery for the half-years ending 30th June 1909 and 31st December 1909.

(2) Statement showing the production of minerals and gems for the calendar year 1909.

Manufactures.—Report on the working of the Factories Act in the Punjab during the year 1909.

Trade.—(1) Report on the Internal Trade of the Punjab by Rail and River for the year ending March 31st, 1910.

(2) Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

(3) Report on the Joint-Stock Companies in the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

Public Works.—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1909-10.

Irrigation.—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Irrigation Branch, for the year 1909-10.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Agriculture.—As to *prices* see Prices and Wages in India.

Crops.—Agricultural Statistics of India, volume I, tables 2-I and 3-I.

Area and yield of certain Principal crops in India.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Statistics of British India, Part I.
(2) Records of the Geological Survey of India, volume XXXVII.
(3) Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1909.

Manufactures.—Statistics of British India, Part I.

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the calendar year 1909.

Trade.—Accounts of the Trade carried by Rail and River in India.]

27. Agriculture.

88. The College was opened in September 1909 with a class of 16 students. The results were satisfactory, in particular the practical field work. There was a large decrease in the number of applications for admission. This is due in part to the novelty of the idea having worn off, but also to the dissipation of the notion that the course is a cheap and easy means of entering Government service. The fees have now been raised to make the cost of the diploma equal to that of a B. A. degree. Punjab Agricultural College.

Experimental work at Lyallpur.

89. Among the various points brought out in the general management of the station may be noted the following :—

(*a*) Subsoiling has given no results up to date.

(*b*) Ploughing with furrow turning ploughs if judiciously handled has been profitable and will repay the increased initial outlay in one year.

(*c*) Nitrate of lime has given a definite increase with wheat but not enough to pay for its application at present prices.

(*d*) The value of deeper tillage for kharif crops seems to be indicated by general observations.

The work among cottons so far has been mainly confined to the production of pure types selected from individual plants which would yield most profit when grown under ordinary conditions. About 200 different sowings of cotton were put down last year.

Experiments were made in several districts with cassava, a plant which is reported to be extremely drought resistant, and to produce a very large amount of nutritive matter per acre. The results show that cassava must be planted here as soon as the winter frosts are over, that with a fair supply of water it grows vigorously in the Punjab, but that it is useless to put in a crop without special protection against white ants. For this reason alone it cannot be recommended to cultivators at present.

Agricultural machinery.

90. With the ever-increasing cost of labour, the need of labour-saving appliances becomes greater every year. The Punjabi has now become accustomed to farming for a profit as well as for a livelihood, and he is prepared to invest a certain amount of capital if he sees his way to a good return. This branch of the work of the department is very promising indeed. Seventy-two reapers and over 200 light furrow turning ploughs were sold. The new winnower designed by Mr. Milligan has given excellent results.

Miscellaneous.

91. The preparation of the agricultural section of the Indian Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition at Lahore was practically entirely the work of the Agricultural and Veterinary Departments. Collections of indigenous and of improved implements were made and demonstrations given daily. The principal products of each district of the Punjab were collected and specimens from other provinces and where possible from foreign countries. The entomological section was very complete. A model of a veterinary hospital, a collection of anatomical models and a collection of bacteria which attack cattle may be mentioned among the many interesting exhibits of the Veterinary Department.

Punjab Veterinary College.

92. The examination results are very slightly better than last year for the third year class, while they are not so good for the first and second year classes. The examiners have again reported that the number of students is too large to admit of satisfactory teaching, and the matter has been brought by the Punjab Government to the notice of the Government of India. The overcrowding of classes is due to the large number of men who have to be trained for the Army and for other Provinces.

In addition to the ordinary classes during the year, a class of 48 men from the Transport Department received 3 months' training as dressers.

A report on the valuable and interesting work done in the segregation ward during the year by Mr. Gaiger was submitted to the Inspector-General, Civil Veterinary Department.

No progress was made with the sanctioned additions to the buildings owing to scarcity of funds.

The demand for the services of veterinary graduates continues. There is no likelihood of the supply exceeding the demand for many years to come. As remarked last year, the want of a second vernacular veterinary college is much felt in Upper India.

Civil Veterinary Department.

93. With a heavy and prolonged monsoon rainfall the year was an unhealthy one, although the mortality was not quite as heavy as in 1908-09. There were 452 deaths from surra against 163 last year. The progress made in simplifying the arsenical treatment of this disease will be followed with great interest. The increase in the number of deaths from rinderpest from 8,739 to 18,055 is remarkable, and is doubtless connected with the short supply of serum. Steps are being taken to apply the vaccine against hæmorrhagic septicæmia in villages in which the disease has appeared for the last two or three years in succession. Foot and mouth disease was extraordinarily prevalent, and veterinary assistants were in great request in this connection.

Steady progress is being made in providing suitable buildings for veterinary hospitals. The gift of a hospital at Bhiwáni by Lala Tara Chand deserves acknowledgment, and is a gratifying indication of the growth of popular interest. Further efforts will be made to remove the difficulties in the way of providing better hospitals at Amritsar and Murree. The Simla veterinary hospital again shows a net profit. The equipment of all the hospitals is excellent.

A systematic inquiry into the subject of cattle-breeding and of the cattle trade was instituted in every district towards the close of the year, and Mr. Stow, C. S., was placed on special duty to deal with the question.

Agricultural pests.

94. In the kharif the heaviest losses were those due to rice-bug. The insect had not been noticed before in the province. Grass-hoppers did much harm to young seedlings in the central districts. The mango crop in Hoshiárpur was almost a total failure owing to green-fly.

The heavy rain of the last two years led to the spread of a thick deep-rooted grass in the riverain tract in Ferozepore, and the land is fast becoming unculturable.

Loans to agriculturists.

95. In 1908-09 the amount of loans distributed under Act XII of 1884 was Rs. 4,24,822 as against Rs. 18,94,837 in the previous year, and under Act XIX of 1883 Rs. 3,02,211 as against Rs. 3,35,347.

The financial result of operations under both Acts is a gain of Rs. 11,789, but the figures for previous years show that Government is still a loser. The amount outstanding was, however, considerably reduced from Rs. 35,35,844 to Rs. 25,95,341.

Of the Rs. 4,24,822 advanced under Act XII of 1884 the largest amount was given in Muzaffargarh, Rs. 57,835. Only Rs. 80 were distributed in Attock, which took over Rs. 80,000 under the other Act.

Six Deputy Commissioners remarked in their reports on the difficulty of ensuring that loans under this Act are applied to the purpose for which they are given, and there is no doubt that it has to be very carefully worked if waste of public money is to be avoided.

Exemption certificates under Act XIX of 1883 were granted in 1,824 cases, chiefly in Multán and in Gurgaon. The obtaining of a certificate in tracts under fixed assessment is usually deferred till revision of settlement.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

96. Greater progress in the movement was achieved in 1909-10 than in any previous year. Only 22 societies were directed to wind up, while as many as 412 were added, making a total of 706 societies working at the close of the year. Working capital has increased in nearly the same proportion from Rs. 8,12,939 to Rs. 15,81,357, while the membership has increased from 23,429 to 38,555. The receipts of the year for rural societies amount to Rs. 17,66,991 and the expenditure to Rs. 17,21,775. The Registrar notes the welcome improvement that deposits by non-members have increased by 350 per cent. Loans issued amounted to Rs. 13,27,329, an increase of nearly 140 per cent., and repayments have been good. At the end of the year, the excess of assets over liabilities in the case of rural societies was Rs. 1,65,511. The cost of establishment employed by the societies was Rs. 4,456, an increase due to the increase in the number of societies. This sum is still very small, and

does not include any payment for the supervising staff provided by Government. It is hoped that some of the larger banks will soon be able to pay for their own inspection and audit.

The movement now extends to 18 districts, though the only districts which show any extensive progress are Jullundur, Gurdáspur, Lyallpur, Hoshiárpur, Jhelum, Shahpur and Gujrát. It is remarkable what a large share in the totals of the various statements is taken by Jullundur and Gurdáspur, and possibly this is a lesson in the benefits of concentration.

Rural societies still constitute 98 per cent. of the co-operative societies in the Punjab, but a special feature of the year under report is the extension of central banks of which there are now six. Unfortunately they are not taking their proper place in the development of societies, as they should follow, not precede, a strong organisation of rural societies. This is a defect in the Jhelum bank, and the Registrar has made the latest formed bank of this kind, at Hoshiárpur, more elastic in its constitution.

Prices.

97. With good harvests, there was a gradual fall in the prices of food-grains. The movement was, however, rather slow as stocks had not been fully replenished. Dealers evinced their usual reluctance to give way until harvests were absolutely assured, and in this they were supported by the cultivators themselves, who, having enjoyed two years of very high prices, were very loth to sell at comparatively low rates. There was a marked general decline in December and a further drop in April and May. A reference to the abstract below shows that the principal food-grains, rice, wheat, barley, *jowar*, *bajra* and maize sold at harvest time at rates between 21 and 30 per cent. above the normal, which is the average of 11 normal years preceding 1906-07. The rate for gram was only 7 per cent. above the normal. The price of rapeseed was almost maintained at last year's level. Sugar only declined one anna per maund, this being due to the active demand for the home-grown product. Cotton rose very considerably owing to the part failure of the American and Egyptian crops, and, during the winter, sold on occasions at between Rs. 8 and Rs. 10 per maund, an unprecedented figure. Agriculturists made large profits during the year and were in a position to hold up the bulk of the wheat surplus of 1910 for higher rates. This is the first time that this has been done on a general scale. Subsequent events have justified this line of action, as injury to crops in the United States and Canada resulted in an appreciable advance.

Crop.	Average normal harvest price.	Average harvest price in 1908-09.	Average harvest price in 1909-10.	Percentage above the normal in 1909-10.
	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
Rice	1 12	2 11	2 2	21
Wheat	2 3	3 9	2 12	26
Barley	1 8	2 7	1 13	21
Jowar	1 11	2 10	2 3	30
Bajra	1 15	3 1	2 8	29
Maize	1 11	2 14	2 2	26
Gram	1 13	2 11	1 15	7
Rapeseed	3 4	4 5	4 0	23
Sugar	3 9	4 9	4 8	26
Cotton (unginned)	4 10	5 10	6 15	50

28. Weather and Crops.

Weather and Crops.

98. There was an early extension of the monsoon into the Punjab. Excellent general rain between the 17th and 22nd of June was followed by regular showers. There was a break in the 2nd and 3rd weeks of August, except in the sub-montane districts. Abundant rain followed until almost the middle of September. Taking the total monsoon rainfall there was a trifling shortage of 4 per cent. in the south-west and an excess of 29 per cent. in the east, centre and north. Taking the province as a whole, the monsoon was one of the best of recent years both as regards total rainfall and distribution.

There was every facility for extensive sowings, but agriculturists were too busy with the bumper spring harvest to take full advantage of their opportunity. Outturns were generally distinctly satisfactory and crop failures unusually unimportant. The last phase of the monsoon was extremely favourable for sowings of all spring crops. The winter season opened well with good general rain between the 13th and 16th of December, this being in ample time to permit of extensive late sowings in the North Punjab. Further light showers were received at Christmas in the East Punjab. A second beneficial general fall was registered in the middle of January. After this date there was little precipitation of importance. A feature of the spring was again the occurrence of heavy rain in the middle of April, but this year it was not sufficiently heavy to cause damage. Summarising, the total winter rainfall was much in defect except in Ráwalpindi, Attock, and Dera Gházi Khan, but the reserves of soil moisture were thoroughly renewed in December and January, and this was sufficient to mature the crops even on unirrigated land. The seasonal conditions may be regarded as very favourable, and outturns were generally above the average.

The total area sown during the year was 29,648,060 acres, being 349,813 acres more than last year and 9 per cent. above the average. The excess was entirely in the rabi, for, as already stated, the bumper spring crops monopolised attention in May and June to the prejudice of autumn sowings, and conditions were not very favourable in the early part of the summer. In the rabi the high price of gram caused very extensive sowings of that crop.

Irrigated area.

99. The monsoon rainfall was more evenly distributed than in 1908-09 and the winter rainfall was also more favourable. There was, therefore, less need for artificial irrigation and the area irrigated, which represented 34 per cent. of the total area sown, fell from 10,432,197 acres to 10,215,054 acres. The largest area sown on irrigated land was in 1905-06, amounting to 11,469,499 acres. The irrigable area has of course increased to some extent since that date, and is now probably about 12 million acres. The decline in the area grown with the aid of irrigation was mainly in the Eastern Punjab. There is a decrease under all classes of irrigation. The area irrigated from wells was a million acres less than in 1907-08.

29. Horticulture.

100. The income from the sales of garden produce grown in the Lahore Agri-Horticultural Gardens increased by nearly Rs. 2,000 this year, and in spite of the continued high cost of labour there was a surplus on the year's working.

The gardens, however, still suffer from the lack of sufficient funds. The reclamation of the old overgrown nurseries has proved very expensive, and the up-keep of the roads, of which there are almost 5 miles, is a heavy item. Now that reclamation work is nearly over, and the roads are in good repair, it is hoped that it will be possible to give attention to a number of matters which have had to stand over. A considerable saving of expense is anticipated from the use of certain American labour-saving appliances, hoes, mowers, &c., which have proved of great utility.

To meet the present demand for malis a scheme is under consideration for starting classes for chowdris and malis in the gardens.

30. Forests.

Area.

101. The total area under the control of the Forest Department was reduced during the year from 9014·05 to 8752·10 square miles, a net reduction of 167,650 acres. This reduction is more apparent than real, and is due in large measure to the omission of a number of small areas that were only nominally in charge of the department. In Gurdáspur an area of 7,911 acres among the low hills was transferred to the management of the Deputy Commissioner,—a change which involved no loss of forest revenue.

Settlements.

102. Two forests, *viz.*, Chhanni Mughlan in the Chenab division and Kot Lakhpat in the Lahore division, with areas of 955 and 2,899 acres respectively, have been notified as reserved forests. The reservation of parts of Mahandevi and Baoli Lehna Singh unclassed forests, some 15,000 acres in area, for the creation of irrigated plantations, has been undertaken. The re-settlement of the Sutlej Valley forests has not yet been taken up, partly for want of establishment, and partly owing to the unsettled state of the country. The preliminary arrangements for the much-needed re-settlement of the Kángra forests are well advanced, and definite proposals as to the manner in which it is to be conducted will be placed before Government during the coming forest year.

Demarcation and Survey.

103. The total length of artificially demarcated boundaries was reduced during the year from 9,984 to 9,907 miles, consequent on the reduction of the area under the control of the department. The Survey Department surveyed during the year 347 square miles of reserved forests in the Shahpur division and 34 square miles in the Jhelum division.

Working plans.

104. No new working plans were prepared, submitted or sanctioned during the year. In several divisions the scarcity of labour prevented the felling prescriptions from being fully worked up to. Otherwise the provisions of working plans were generally acted up to, except in the matter of roads and buildings. This, as was the case last year, is attributed by the Conservator to the lack of a sufficient establishment to control them.

Plans of operations were drawn up for all forests and their provisions were generally followed.

Communications and buildings.

105. Two miles of cart-road and 65 miles of other roads and paths were newly constructed during the year. The total expenditure by the department on roads and bridges was Rs. 36,409 as compared with Rs. 25,460 in 1908-09. The increase is due to the employment of better workmanship, cheap work on hill roads being financially very unsound. Rupees 30,302 were spent on buildings, chiefly on rest-houses and quarters for the subordin ate establishment.

Forest offences.

106. The total number of forest offences brought to light was 7,379 as compared with 6,752 in 1908-09. Grazing cases are responsible for 658 of the excess number. This class of case shows a remarkable tendency to increase, which is particularly noticeable in the Ráwalpindi, Jhelum, Lahore and Montgomery districts.

The number of cases taken into court was 852 as compared with 804 in the previous year. The number of cases compromised rose by 562 to 6,355.

Protection from fire.

107. The area over which special measures were taken for fire protection rose from 611,479 acres to 672,957 acres. An outbreak of incendiarism occurred in Ráwalpindi, but the stringent measures taken by the local authorities speedily put an end to it. It seems, however, that in the last resort the only effective means of preventing such outbreaks lies in the personal influence of the officers responsible.

Protection from cattle.

108. A definite series of experiments was arranged at the Forest Conference for the purpose of ascertaining the grazing incidence permissible in hill forests. How important a matter this is is indicated by the fact that in Kángra cattle have increased from 943,474 to 1,366,618 in the last 13 years.

Protection against injury from natural causes.

109. Sixteen thousand blue pine attacked by the *Trametes pini* were felled in Simla. Two deodars were found in the Simla division which had also been attcked by the same fungus. While the insect pests in that division are not increasing, it is clear that for some years to come traps cannot be discontinued.

Artificial reproduction.

110. The total area under cultural operations at the close of the year was 3,705 acres; 1,747 acres were excluded in the Lahore division representing areas which had failed or were completely stocked.

Exploitation.

111. The total area worked over for timber and firewood was 101,385 acres as compared with 81,203 in the previous year. Resin-tapping was continued on a small scale in Kángra, and was started experimentally in Ráwalpindi. A new resin still was obtained, and it is proposed to resume the exploitation of this valuable product on a large scale.

The quantity of timber removed by departmental agency was 314,813 cubic feet as against 113,816 cubic feet in 1908-09. The increase is principally due to the fellings of blue pine alluded to above. The removals by purchasers amounted to 3,075,203 cubic feet of timber and 3,373,771 of firewood as compared with 1,589,390 cubic feet and 2,191,933 cubic feet, respectively, last year. The large apparent increase in timber is due to the adjustment during the year under report of a considerable number of trees extracted by the Sutlej Forest Company in Bashahr in 1908-09.

General.

112. More attention is being given to the training of the subordinate staff; proposals are under consideration for the establishment of a Forest Rangers' School for the province in connexion with the Agricultural College at Lyallpur; and the pay of the Provincial Forest Service has been regraded.

31. Mines and Quarries.

Gold.

113. Gold washing in the districts of Ambála, Jhelum, Miánwáli and Attock produced 154 ounces of gold, worth Rs. 9,317.

Petroleum.

114. Seven hundred and twenty gallons of petroleum were collected in the Miánwáli district.

Alum.

115. The outturn of alum, which is produced in the Miánwáli district, was more than doubled, being 6,300 maunds, valued at Rs. 29,925, as against 3,000 maunds last year.

Coal.

116. Dandot colliery worked by the North-Western Railway yielded 37,208 tons.

Salt.

117. The outturn of the Cis-Indus and Kálábágh mines and the Sultánpur salt workswas 3,398,276 maunds as against 3,133,704 in the previous year.

32. Manufactures.

Number of factories and operatives.

118. The total number of factories shews very little change. Native enterprize appears to be loth to devote capital to anything more novel than cotton ginning and pressing and flour grinding.

The average number of operatives employed was 28,679 or 3,000 more than last year, when there was less cotton to gin.

Inspections.

119. Of 259 factories 201 were inspected once or oftener. Of the 58 not inspected 29 were not working. Inspections are too frequent at Delhi.

General condition of factories.

120. The majority of factories observe the law regarding holidays, but there is a large minority which do not. So also in the case of midday stoppages. Surprise inspections are not frequent enough. The wages earned are higher than agricultural labourers receive. Labour is short and especially child labour, for want of which our spinning mills cannot work at full pressure. Owing to the mills being small and scattered, half day's schooling is almost precluded. The most usual rates for unskilled labour are Re. 0-6-0 for a man and Re. 0-3-0 for a woman. The shortage of adult labour is more serious. Lahore has to recruit from Delhi, Agra and beyond, and the Delhi mills complain that the Lahore mills entice their men away.

The fencing of machinery is generally adequate. There were 9 fatal accidents. There were only 3 prosecutions during the year.

33. Trade.

General total results.

121. Exclusive of animals and treasure the following table gives the total of the trade in the last two triennial periods :—

Year.		Exports.		Imports.	
		Maunds.	Value.	Maunds.	Value.
			Rs.		Rs.
1904—07	Total ...	150,661,324	58,89,97,604	87,364,520	61,86,81,868
	Average ...	50,220,441	19,63,32,535	29,121,507	20,62,27,289
1907—10	Total ...	132,838,574	69,04,09,249	122,235,931	75,17,76,105
	Average ...	44,279,525	23,01,36,416	40,745,310	25,05,92,035
Total increases or decreases ...		−178	+ 1,014	+ 348	+ 1,330 lakhs

The decrease in the exports of our present period is entirely due to the disastrous year of 1908-09. In 1909-10 however the total exports amounted to 455 lakhs of maunds, nearly double the exports of the year before, while the imports come to 397 lakhs of maunds, or but little short of the imports of the two preceding years, and much in advance of the imports of any earlier year. The value of the exports in 1909-10 owing to the rise of prices was, notwithstanding the lesser weight, greater than in any past year except the marvellous year 1907-08—they were 10 crores more than in 1908-09 and only 3 crores short of the figures for 1907-08. There has not been the same rise in the prices of the imports and their total value has accordingly risen more in proportion with the increase in weight. This means that the Punjab farmer can now buy 40 maunds of miscellaneous imported luxuries with the same amount of his produce as would have given him only 22 maunds of similar luxuries in 1904. This is certainly progress in prosperity such as the peasants of few western countries have ever enjoyed.

Exports.

122. In 1907-08, 316 lakhs of maunds of wheat and wheat flour were exported, in 1908-09, 87 lakhs, and in 1909-10, 245 lakhs. These figures follow closely the general character of the harvests. Cotton rose in 1909-10 from 11¾ to 21 lakhs of maunds and in value from 193 to 407 lakhs of rupees. There have never been such exports before. The crop was a good one and the partial failure of the American and Egyptian crops sent up the prices.

Raw hides were relieved from the 15 per cent. tariff in force in the United States till August 1909. The exports increased from 119 to 146 thousand maunds, but the exports of hides for the triennium are still a lakh of maunds below the figures for the previous period. Skins are now nearly all exported in the raw state, and the difference in value between the raw and the tanned skins no longer enriches the Punjab tanners, but goes into American pockets. It is the same with tanned hides, of which the exports have fallen from 3,933 maunds in 1906-07 to 658 maunds in 1909-10.

There has been an enormous increase in the exports of cotton seed. The exports—nearly all to Karáchi—amounted to 44¾ lakhs of maunds, worth 168 lakhs of rupees, whereas the previous largest figure was 24 lakhs of maunds worth 89 lakhs of rupees in 1906-07. These huge figures are due to the good cotton harvest and the rising demand for cotton seed for oil refining.

Exports of raw wool fluctuated much from year to year and have been very large during the past twelve months owing to a strong demand from England and the United States. Exports of sugar have risen by 40 per cent. to 7 lakhs of maunds owing to a greater demand in Sind, Rájpútána and Central India. The Punjab is not however self-supporting in raw sugar as she received 23 lakhs of maunds of unrefined sugar, gur, &c., chiefly from the United Provinces.

Imports.

123. Coal and coke are less by 30 lakhs of maunds than in 1908-09, but the total for the last three years exceeds that of 1904—07 by 216 lakhs of maunds. Eighty-eight lakhs of maunds are used by factories and private persons, and consumption appears to be increasing. Notwithstanding the Swadeshi movement Indian piece-goods are worse by 63 lakhs than in the previous triennium. The volume of European piece-goods imported is steadily increasing. The value of European yarn imported is, however, decreasing. Apart from the local incomings from the adjoining districts of the United Provinces the only grain which the Punjab imports in large quantities is rice out of the husk, of which 14 lakhs of maunds (6 lakhs from Calcutta) were imported in the past year. This is due now to fashion and a growing taste for rice rather than a deficiency in the provincial supplies. The enhanced duty on liquor appears to have little effect on the consumption. The general increase in the last three years in the imports of metals, kerosine oil and all other articles of merchandize may be ascribed to the gradual improvement in the standard of living. The province is far from self-supporting in ghi for it imported 2¼ lakhs of maunds in the last triennium. A factory for pure artificial ghi is badly needed in the province.

River traffic.

124. The exports by the river Indus have amounted to 20 lakhs of maunds in the last year and 55 lakhs of maunds in the triennium, a considerable increase in both cases. They consist almost entirely of raw cotton, grain, oilseeds and wood. The imports are only about one-tenth of the exports and consist chiefly of piece-goods, grain, iron girders, stone, chalk and lime, kerosine oil, dried fruits, sugar and tobacco. If the traffic is to flourish means must be found to attract to the river some of the more bulky goods which are now brought into the province from Karáchi by rail.

TRADE WITH TRANS-FRONTIER COUNTRIES.

Total trade.

125. The following figures show the total trade during the last two periods of three years:—

	VALUE OF TRADE.							
	Afghánistán.		*Ladákh (By Kulu route only.)*		*Chinese Tibet.*		*Total.*	
	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average.	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average.	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average.	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average.
IMPORTS.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1904—07 ...	94,491	31,497	22,44,503	7,48,168	3,70,861	1,23,620	27,09,855	9,03,285
1907—10 ...	44,928	14,976	5,62,142	1,87,381	7,35,192	2,45,064	13,42,262	4,47,421
EXPORTS.								
1904—07 ...	2,47,839	82,613	4,98,045	1,66,015	1,40,969	46,989	8,86,853	2,96,284
1907—10 ...	49,215	16,405	3,38,328	1,12,776	91,983	30,661	4,79,526	1,59,842

Except in the case of Tibet it is a record of collapse, of which the significance can only be partially explained away by the statistical adjustments which have to be applied. The trade with Afghánistán was not registered between January 1st and October 30th, 1907, which means that the figures for the present triennium really include the exports of two years only. Moreover there can be little doubt that in the earlier triennium a good deal of traffic with Balúchistán was recorded as trade with Afghánistán, though the orders were that trade with Balúchistán was not to be registered. In the case of Ladákh trade the value of the imports has been much reduced during the last three years by the exclusion of the amount of duty in calculating the value of *charas*, and, besides that, certain statistical errors have to be allowed for. The same errors affect in some measure the figures for Tibet.

Trade with Afghanistan.

126. The trade with Afghánistán is hardly worth registering. The imports are chiefly of raisins, almonds and *ghi* and the exports of rice, leather shoes and cotton piece-goods, but the last in very small quantities now-a-days. This year some 40 maunds of Indian tea has been exported, and this may be the beginning of a new trade. The only satisfactory feature is that in 1909-10 both imports and exports have considerably increased.

Trade with Ladakh.

127. The trade with Ladákh is almost entirely through Kulu, as owing to the absence of a bridge at Dankar the Spiti route from Simla is not followed.

The raising of the price of *charas* has somewhat restricted the consumption in India. The amount of raw wool entered in the returns as imported has fallen from 5,547 maunds in the last triennium to 588 in the years 1907—10. This is however only a statistical decrease, the trade now being correctly recorded as being with Tibet.

There has been a serious shrinkage in the exports of European piece-goods, but this is probably due to greater use being made of the Kashmír route, as there are no signs of a decrease in the demand for goods of this description in Central Asia. A similar cause is to be assigned for the decline in the exports of Indian tea from 2,104 maunds in 1906-07 to 507 maunds in 1909-10, but in this case it is reported that the markets were overstocked.

Trade with Tibet.

128. It is satisfactory to observe that imports of borax have increased from 3,008 maunds in 1904—07 to 6,556 maunds in 1907—10. The increase in the wool trade seems to have been at the expense of the trade with the United Provinces, where imports are decreasing.

The value of the exports declined year by year from 1904-05 to 1908-09, but in 1909-10 there was a considerable improvement in most commodities.

Export of merchandize in bond.

129. No use has been made of the bonded-warehouse at Hoshiárpur established in order to permit of the despatch of goods in bond to Central Asia by the Kulu route. There was rumour prevalent in Hoshiárpur that the customs at Bombay had refused to allow goods to go through in bond. This was a mistake, which measures have been taken to disperse.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Total number of companies.

130. Eighteen new companies have been registered during the year and 10 have ceased to work, leaving 136 now on our books. The nominal capital has increased from 485 to 588 lakhs and the paid-up capital from 149 lakhs to 172 lakhs. Nominal capital of Rs. 100 now yields only Rs. 29, whereas a few years ago it yielded Rs. 43.

New companies.

131. Of the new companies 1 was for insurance—life, fire and accident—2 were for constructing light railways, 2 were spinning and weaving mills with large nominal capitals of 17 and 25 lakhs, 1 was a paper mill, while the remainder were of diverse description.

Capital.

132. The total increase of 18½ lakhs in the paid-up capital may be compared with the corresponding increases of 12 and 24 lakhs respectively in the previous two years, in the earlier of which there was an exceptional increase of 7 lakhs in one company. Considering the many more opportunities now offered by joint stock companies the annual amount of money which seeks investment in them is extraordinarily petty.

34. Public Works.

Total expenditure.

133. The total outlay for the year on Public Works in the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Public Works Department was 48½ lakhs.

Imperial Military Works.

134. The total sum spent under this head was Rs. 1,20,603, chiefly on works for the Army Remount Department at Sargodha.

Imperial Civil Works.

135. The total outlay on original works was Rs. 2,37,283 and on repairs Rs. 1,32,216. The bulk of this represents work for the Postal and Telegraph Departments, but it includes a sum of Rs. 75,000 spent on purchasing a site for quarters at Simla for clerks of the Government of India.

Provincial Civil Works.

136. The total expenditure was Rs. 15,93,477 on works and Rs. 14,17,875 on repairs.

The principal works undertaken were the building of a new record-room at Gujránwála and new tahsils at Kángra and Bhalwal; district court buildings at Dharmsála; a combined court and residence for the Assistant Commissioner at Fázilka; provision of electric fans in the Civil and Public Works Department Secretariats at Lahore; the improvement of Barnes Court, Simla; various buildings in connection with the Lyallpur Agricultural College; additions to the Chemical Laboratory, Government College, Lahore; construction of a Sessions House at Dharmsála; cellular barracks for 80 prisoners, and water-supply for the Central Jail, Multán; construction of four police stations and two police rest-houses; alterations and additions to the Mayo Hospital, and the Punjab Lunatic Asylum.

Roads.

137. The provincial outlay on works amounted to Rs. 1,00,254 and on repairs to Rs. 9,80,642.

On a review of the financial position of local boards it was decided that it would be inadvisable for Government to continue the policy of constructing more feeder roads for the full term of four years originally contemplated; and it was decided that all old and new completed feeder roads with the funds available should be transferred to the local boards for future maintenance from April 1st, 1910.

Miscellaneous.

138. A number of improvements were effected on the roads in and near Simla and on the Upper Mall at Lahore. The total expenditure on the Simla Hydro-Electric Scheme amounted to Rs. 1,04,766. No very great erosion took place at Dera Gházi Khan during May, June and July 1909, but by the first week in August 123 feet of bank were carried away at the Kasturi Canal. During the second week in August the situation developed rapidly, and more erosion took place at this point. By the 15th September it had ceased. No very great damage was done to the city or bunds.

Railways.

139. There was an increase of Rs. 105·16 lakhs in the gross earnings of the North-Western State Railway; at the same time the working expenses fell by about 10 lakhs, and the net earnings rose to nearly 242 lakhs.

140. The increase in goods earnings was chiefly due to heavy bookings of wheat, oil-seeds and raw cotton for export to Europe. During the year the doubling of the line between Lodhrán and Samasata was completed, and the station yards at Samasata and Malakwál were remodelled. With effect from the 1st December 1909 the 1st, 2nd and intermediate class passenger fares over the North-Western Railway, excepting the Mushkaf-Bolán and Sind-Peshin lines beyond Sibi, were raised to the level of those obtaining on the East Indian Railway. Surveys of 222·72 miles were made on the 2 feet 6 inch gauge from Bannu to Kálábágh and branches.

141. Many serious breaches occurred in the Quetta, Sind Ságar and Colony districts owing to heavy rain in April and June to September.

There were no serious train accidents during the year.

35. Irrigation.

General.

142. The direct receipts of the Irrigation Department during the year were Rs. 2,02,39,941 and the direct expenditure Rs. 1,98,69,536, of which Rs. 1,10,72,090 was due to capital and Rs. 87,97,446 to working expenses. In addition to direct receipts, the indirect revenue credited to the canals on account of enhanced land revenue, &c., amounted to Rs. 39,66,778. The total area irrigated by Major and Minor Works, Imperial, Provincial and Native States, amounted to 7,086,611 acres.

Western Jumna Canal.

143. The total area irrigated was 113,374 acres less than that in 1908-09. It was due to good and timely rainfall during the kharif crops. The net income of the year amounted to Rs. 10,36,612 equivalent to 5·97 per cent. on the capital outlay.

A large amount of surveying and project estimating was done in connection with the Ganges Jumna Feeder Project, and at the close the project estimate was well advanced.

Sirhind Canal.

144. General rain in April with slight showers in June and copious and well-distributed rains in July to September decreased the area of canal irrigation during kharif. It also enabled a large area of rabi to be sown with canal water which subsequent rain in December sufficed to mature. The total area irrigated decreased accordingly by about 300,000 acres.

The profit earned amounts to Rs. 12,15,664 or 4·86 per cent. on capital.

145. The year under report has been a busy one at the Central Workshops where important works have been in progress in addition to important extensions of the Workshops themselves. **Upper Bari Doab canal.**

The most important work that has been in hand was the iron and steel machinery for the Merala Head Works and the large undersluice gates, Stoney type, of 36 feet length and 13 feet 8 inches height, being the largest gates as yet installed in the Punjab.

The heavy kharif rains led to a decrease in the irrigated area of about 12,000 acres. The net income, however, rose slightly to Rs. 24,59,347 or 11·83 on capital invested.

146. The area irrigated rose to 2,040,175 acres as against 1,756,123 last year. The net revenue was Rs. 77¼ lakhs or 27·11 per cent. on the capital invested. **Lower Chenab Canal.**

The clearance of 16 miles of the Jhang Branch was carried out in September, mainly with object of strengthening the banks. As the matter was urgent 23,000 workmen were with the assistance of the Civil Officers brought in, chiefly by special trains. The whole work was carried out in 10 days and reflects great credit on all concerned.

147. The total area irrigated was 731,465 acres. The net revenue amounted to Rs. 16½ lakhs or 6·99 per cent. on the capital outlay. **Lower Jhelum Canal.**

Seventeen thousand and seventy-two acres were allotted for colonization during the year. The total area allotted up to the end of the year was 374,093 acres.

Notices were widely circulated enjoining on the people the necessity of dividing their fields into compartments. Unless this is done water is wasted.

148. Three million thirty-six thousand nine hundred and sixty-one acres were irrigated. The year's operations resulted in a profit of Rs. 2,73,915 or 15·65 per cent. on the capital outlay. **Upper Sutlej Inundation Canals.**

149. This canal worked very well. The supply in the river was plentiful. The year was favourable, the net profit being Rs. 3,67,893 or 27·94 per cent. on capital. **Sidhnai Canal.**

150. The defence embankments at the head of the Shah Jamal depression were penetrated by the river and a disastrous flood swept the southern portion of the Dera Gházi Khan district, doing considerable damage to the Nur-Dhundi, Dhundi Kutab, and Kádra Canals. The year's working resulted in a loss of Rs. 2,50,999. **Indus Inundation Canals.**

151. Steady progress was made with construction. The total outlay, during the year was Rs. 43¼ lakhs; labour at the head-works was plentiful. The work in the tail portion of the Main Line Lower made great strides during the year. **Upper Chenab Canal.**

152. The total outlay during the year was Rs. 38,71,569. The progress on the canal shows a general improvement all round. The average daily labour force throughout the year was nearly 8,000 men. **Upper Jhelum Canal.**

153. During the year under report the idea of taking the canal across the river Ravi by means of a syphon was abandoned, and designs for a level crossing were submitted for the sanction of the Government of India. The total outlay during the year amounted to Rs. 26¼ lakhs. **Lower Bari Doab Canal.**

Minor Irrigation Works.

154. The Shahpur (Imperial) Canals again earned a handsome profit of 23·05 per cent. The Ghaggar Canals, however, exhibited a loss of Rs. 24,650. A number of useful improvements in the village water-course arrangements were made. The Lower Sutlej Inundation Canals worked well as the river was higher at the beginning of the flow season. A profit of Rs. 2,65,082 was obtained.

The Chenab Inundation Canals earned a profit of Rs. 2,56,947. The supply in the river was plentiful.

The Muzaffargarh Inundation Canals and the Shahpur (Provincial) Canals obtained profits of Rs. 1,51,047 and Rs. 16,228 respectively, but the Ravi Inundation Canal and the Rangoi Canal were worked at a small loss.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications:—

(*a*)—DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1909.

Canal Revenue.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the triennial period 1905-06 to 1907-08.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1909-10.

Stamps.—Note on the stamp statements of the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

Income Tax.—Report on the Income Tax Administration of the Punjab during the year 1909-10.

Forests.—Punjab Forest Administration Report for 1909-10.

Local Funds.—District Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1909-10.

(*b*)—STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, PART IV (*b*)—FINANCE AND REVENUE.]

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

General.

155. In the following statements for the year ending March 31st, 1909, the income and expenditure of the Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, military expenditure and capital expenditure on canals are omitted.

Revenue.

156. The revenue raised in the province during 1909-10 is made up as follows, last year's figures being quoted for comparison :—

SOURCES OF REVENUE.	1908-09.	1909-10.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Land Revenue	2,20·74	2,83·26
Irrigation (including land revenue due to canals)	2,30·06	2,47·30
Salt	35·09	35·92
Stamps	46·81	48·91
Excise	47·60	43·23
Income Tax	14·16	14·58
Forests	12·89	10·33
Registration	3·14	3·22
Tributes	2·84	3·77
Interest	3·24	4·01
Law and Justice—Courts	4·02	4·06
Law and Justice—Jails	2·00	2·54
Police	5·78	5·69
Education	3·03	4·68
Civil Works	6·31	4·95
All other items	13·98	20·06
TOTAL RECEIPTS	6,51·69	7,36·51

NOTE.—Transactions of incorporated local funds omitted in consequence of their exclusion from public accounts.

Expenditure.

157. The expenditure excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, Local Fund expenditure and capital expenditure on canals, amounted to Rs. 4,11·94 lakhs in 1909-10. The detailed items, with corresponding figures for the previous year, are given below :—

Departments.	1908-09.	1909-10.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Irrigation	84·23	89·80
Public Works	57·03	55·71
Revenue	49·48	47·49
Police	55·03	53·50
Law and Justice	37·47	38·07
Jails	12·30	11·06
Medical	14·04	13·33
Education	22·24	22·61
General Administration	13·54	13·31
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions...	16·07	16·83
Forests	8·52	6·68
Political	6·32	6·48
Stationery and Printing	6·73	7·36
Scientific and other Minor Departments	6·07	7·74
Salt	4·22	4·34
All other items	19·41	17·63
Total expenditure ...	4,12·70	4,11·94

Abstract of income and expenditure.

158. The following is an abstract of the gross income and expenditure for 1909-10 as recorded in the books of the Accountant-General, Punjab :—

	Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	Lakhs of rupees.			*Lakhs of rupees.*		
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.
Revenue and expenditure ...	2,14·30	3,52·12	5,66·42	20·67	3,38·23	3,58·90
Debt and remittance heads ...	...	...	34,04·23	...	...	36,04·25
Total ...	...	...	39,70·65	...	...	39,63·18
Opening balance ...	...	...	85·32	...	...	92·79
Grand Total ...	...	...	40,55·97	...	...	40,55·97

37. Land Revenue.

159. The land revenue collections for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1909 have been reviewed in chapter II. Including collections on account of previous years, they amounted to Rs. 2,19,87,264 fixed, Rs. 53,26,122 fluctuating and Rs. 19,04,123 miscellaneous land revenue, total Rs. 2,92,17,509.

38. Irrigation.

160. The total capital invested up to the end of 1909-10 on canals in operation classed as Productive Major Works was Rs. 11,33,18,733. The amount of capital expenditure during the year was Rs. 5,16,448. The income from all sources was Rs. 2,23,99,978 and the working expenses Rs. 79,19,245. Interest charges amounted to Rs. 36,62,416. The net profit worked out to Rs. 1,08,18,317 as against Rs. 1,01,52,838 last year. The net profit on Imperial Canals, Minor Works not classed as Productive, was Rs. 6,98,189. These figures reflect the great agricultural prosperity which was a feature of the year.

39. Opium and Excise Revenue.

General.

161. The steady growth of revenue which has been so marked a feature of the history of excise in this province during the past decade at last received a check in the year 1909-10. Between 1900-01 and 1908-09 the receipts rose from 24⅛ to 47½ lakhs, but last year a fall of over 4 lakhs has been chronicled. In the previous year the inflation of vend fees by reckless competition had been accompanied by a decline in sales. The reverse has now happened. Vend fees of liquor, both country and foreign, have fallen by 6⅓ lakhs, of opium by 1 lakh, and of drugs by Rs. 40,000. This is chiefly due to the new conditions under which licenses were granted. The increase in the still-head duty on country spirits from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 per gallon accounts for the advance of 2⅓ lakhs under that head, notwithstanding a trifling fall in duty-paid issues in consequence of large withdrawals, which were made towards the close of 1908-09 in anticipation of the imminent increase of taxation. The sales of country spirits have, on the other hand, risen somewhat, and the heavier duty seems to have had no immediate general effect on retail prices. The spreading taste for beer among certain classes is reflected in the returns from Ráwalpindi, Ferozepore and Lahore.

Excise charges increased from Rs. 1,17,009 to Rs. 1,21,061, a rise of 3·4 per cent.

Net revenue.

162. The net revenue amounted to Rs. 42,10,680, a decrease of 9 per cent. on last year's figure, but still higher than that of any other year except 1908-09.

Liquor.

163. Excise on liquor yielded Rs. 28⅓ lakhs as against Rs. 32½ lakhs last year. As noted above, the decline in the license fees accounts for this. The total quantity of spirit issued from the Punjab distilleries amounted to 440,650 proof gallons as compared with 491,942 gallons last year.

The Punjab unfortunately cannot yet depend wholly on its own resources for the supply of country liquor to its districts and the Native States dependent on it. Only three of the five distilleries in the province can be said to be in a really satisfactory state. One of these does not make distilling its principal business, and it is not likely that it will ever largely increase its issues. The improvement of the arrangements at Karnál and Amritsar is a matter of urgency.

The decrease in the amount paid for imported liquor from Rs. 2,13,429 to Rs. 1,63,514 is due almost entirely to the new conditions under which shops were auctioned. The new licensing rules confine sales in bazar shops for off consumption to sealed bottles with a minimum capacity of one reputed

pint, and a decrease in the bidding was only to be expected. The number of shops for the retail vend of foreign liquor licensed at a fixed fee is one less than last year. Auctioned licenses have increased by 10 to 68.

The fixed fee experiment has been definitely abandoned, as to discourage drinking it was necessary to raise it to a point which would almost certainly have led to illicit practices; and it remains to be seen whether the illicit distillation against which it was directed will continue to be held in check by the increase in staff and a more vigorous administration of the Excise Act and Rules.

The total quantity of plain spirit sold by licensed vendors was 403,745 proof gallons as against 352,434 gallons last year. Agricultural conditions were favourable, wages have been high and there was no such malarial epidemic as last year.

Opium.

164. Cultivation of the poppy for the production of opium was discontinued in the plains districts of the Punjab from the 1st June 1909. The production of *post* has now been confined to the districts of Jullundur and Hoshiárpur. Owing to the profit from the cultivation of wheat and other crops the cessation of opium manufacture has entailed no loss on cultivators. The importation of Málwa opium has been forbidden, but this has been rendered less objectionable by the permission, unique in this Province, to boil opium. This is, however, attended by other dangers, and the privilege may have to be withdrawn.

Owing to the prohibition of the import of Málwa opium and the disappearance of Punjab opium from the field, excise opium stands in a distinctly favourable position to dominate the market.

The smuggling of excise opium for the Punjab into Burma came prominently to light during the year, and required careful watching.

Hemp drugs.

165. The fees realised from the vend of hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 2,19,735, a decline of some Rs. 40,000. The number of shops has been considerably reduced. On the other hand, the import duty on *charas* rose from Rs. 3,46,806 to Rs. 3,81,714. The report that the cultivation of hemp had been prohibited in Yárkand stimulated imports into the Punjab, and at the same time enhanced its price. It is doubtful whether this report had any foundation, or whether, if any such prohibition was issued, the order emanated from the Central Chinese Government.

Cocaine.

166. Sales of cocaine rose from 25,642 to 31,427 grains. There can, however, be no doubt that smuggling of this drug is on the increase in Delhi, Lahore and elsewhere.

40. Salt Revenue.

167. The gross revenue of the Northern India Salt Department, Rs. 35,91,807, was more by Rs. 83,360 than in 1908-09. The average retail price of salt per maund in the Punjab again decreased, by $\frac{1}{6}$th anna.

The sales during the year in the Cis-Indus and Kálábágh mines division, maunds 3,304,384, exceeded the sales of 1908-09 by maunds 101,928. The work connected with the through traffic clearances was, as last year, carried out departmentally, instead of through a contractor, and the arrangement worked satisfactorily. The rate paid for excavation at the Mayo Mine remained unchanged at one anna per cubic foot.

The sales from the Mandi mines again declined, by maunds 12,047. There was also a decrease in the demand for Sultánpuri salt, of which only maunds 30,316 were sold. This salt is unable to compete with that produced et Sambhar.

Thare has been a steady rise in the amount of salt consumed per head in the Punjab from 7·95 lbs. in the triennium 1904—07 to 9·02 in 1907—10.

41. Stamp Revenue.

168. The total receipts for the year 1909-10, which amounted to Rs. 48,96,983, exceed those for the previous year by Rs. 3,96,800.

The income from court-fee stamps rose by about 2 lakhs. This is probably due to increased litigation consequent on good harvests which induced money-lenders to institute a larger number of civil suits for the recovery of their debts.

The income from non-judicial stamps was Rs. 1,90,772 greater than in 1908-09. These figures, however, include for the first time the sums realised on account of the share of sale-proceeds of unified stamps, Rs. 1,85,000.

The sale of foreign bill stamps and hundis continues to decline in consequence of trade depression. The number of stamp vendors continues to decrease.

42. Assessed Taxes.

169. The total net collections rose from Rs. 14,05,465 to Rs. 14,39,099. In Ferozepore a special effort was made to assess the cantonment properly.

The year was on the whole one of poor trade and though the number of companies had risen from 38 to 53 the tax assessed on them fell from Rs. 83,316 to Rs. 77,575.

The Financial Commissioner issued a circular to all Deputy Commissioners enjoining greater care in framing and checking original assessments. It was hoped that this would reduce the number of objections. The proportion of objection to all assessees was, however, 60 per cent., in four districts. On the other hand it was as low as 14 per cent. in Amritsar and 13 per cent. in Simla.

43. Forest Revenue.

170. The financial results, though described in the Conservator's report as normal, can hardly be considered satisfactory. The revenue fell from Rs. 11,97,000 to Rs. 9,75,000. To this the Conservator reports that a sum of Rs. 1,26,000, representing the cost of certain trees and firewood which was not realised until after the close of the financial year, should be added to represent faithfully the results of the year's working. The falling-off is due, as was anticipated last year, to the stoppage of departmental timber works and the consequent exhaustion of the stocks of timber in transit. The expenditure, which amounted to Rs. 6,78,000, shows a decrease of Rs. 26,000 due to the same cause. The actual surplus was Rs. 2,97,000 as against a quinquennial average of Rs. 5,41,000. After allowing Rs. 1,34,000 for the transfer of the Chamba forests there remains a decrease of over two lakhs.

It is to be hoped that these results are not due to aiming at too high a standard of efficiency and that income is not being sacrificed to a desire not to move until all arrangements are perfect. In a commercial department like the Forest Department, any such tendency would be regrettable.

44. Provincial Revenue.

171. The income and expenditure under the Provincial section of accounts during the past year have been as follows:—

Year.	Opening balance.	Income.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1907-08	*54,06,526	3,09,21,496	3,33,30,314	29,97,708
1908-09	*30,51,002	3,23,02,486	3,38,79,468	14,74,020
1909-10	14,74,020	3,52,12,408	3,38,23,253	28,63,175

*This includes Rs. 53,294 on account of the closing balance of the 'Copying Agency Funds' on 31st March 1908 provincialised during 1908-09.

The closing balance of the year 1909-10 included 10½ lakhs out of the 20 lakhs contributed from Imperial revenues for the extension and improvement of Simla.

The special features in the accounts of the year 1909-10 were (1) the raising, at an annual cost of a lakh, of the pay of menials to certain standards as representing the minimum living wage, (2) the grant of winter allowance to all non-gazetted officials and menial servants permanently located at Simla, (3) the reorganization of the Judicial service at a cost of 2½ lakhs a year, and (4) the reorganization of the Excise Department.

The revenue classed as Provincial consists of certain receipts either wholly or partly allotted to Provincial uses, the principal heads of which have been discussed above.

45. Local Funds.

Income and expenditure.

172. The income for the year amounted to Rs. 53,46,000 as against Rs. 48,95,000 in 1908-09, reflecting a year of good harvests and general prosperity. The total expenditure was Rs. 53,97,000 as against Rs. 53,53,000.

Local rates rose from Rs. 25,53,000 to Rs. 27,82,000. Increases were also recorded under the head of *School Fees*, notably middle school fees, *Medical, Scientific and Minor Departments, Irrigation, Civil Works* (chiefly due to the sale of building sites in Hissar). The expenditure on *Education* (maintenance and management) fell slightly, and there was also a decrease under *Medical Relief*, due to less expenditure on plague charges.

Balances.

173. The balance fell slightly from Rs. 16,94,000 to Rs. 15,26,000. Balances fell below the prescribed minimum in Kángra, Jullundur, Siálkot, Attock and Ludhiána. The finances of the district funds in the Jullundur division, except Hoshiárpur, are not in a satisfactory condition. On the other hand, Rohtak, Karnál, Multán and Lyallpur have surpluses varying from Rs. 1,38,000 to Rs. 1,85,000. In the absence of explanation these large surpluses are evidence of lax administration.

46. Municipal Funds.

Income and expenditure.

174. The municipal finances of the province are on the whole in a flourishing condition. The aggregate income of the municipalities was Rs. 59,90,000 as against Rs. 57,00,000 in 1908-09, and their expenditure Rs. 58,56,000 as against Rs. 59,35,000.

The increase of income was chiefly under the head of Octroi, which yielded 2¼ lakhs more than in 1908-09. This was due no doubt to the favourable agricultural conditions which prevailed. There was little variation under the other heads of income. The average incidence of taxation, as worked out from the returns, comes to Rs. 2-2-11 per head, but in the tenth year of a census no great reliance can be placed on statistics of population. A decrease of Rs. 1,17,000 on Public Works accounts for the bulk of the reduction in expenditure.

Balances.

175. Balances fell below the prescribed minimum in the municipalities of Hánsi, Phillaur, Ráhon, Nakodar, Hazro, Ráwalpindi, Multán and Muzaffargarh and in the notified areas of Najafgarh, Kalánaur, Anandpur, Kálka and Kádián The octroi schedule of Thánesar has been revised in order to restore financial equilibrium. The balances of the small municipalities in the Jullundur district appear frequently to fall below the prescribed minimum and it is to be hoped that measures will be taken to amend this state of things.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Census.—Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier, 1901, by H. A. Rose, I.C.S.

Births and Deaths.— } Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Pro-
Sanitation.— } ceedings of the Sanitary Board for the year 1909.

Emigration.—Census Report, as above.

Medical Relief.—{ Notes on the Annual Statements of the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the Punjab for the year 1909.
Report of the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, for the year 1909.
Triennial Report on the working of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the period 1906-08.
Report of the Chemical Examiner to Government, Punjab, for the year 1909.

Vaccination.—Notes on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1909-10.

And in Statistics of British India, Part V.]

47. Details of Census.

(See pages 153—60 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.)

48. Births and Deaths.

Birth and death rates.

176. A striking feature of the vital statistics of the year was the fall in the birth-rate. This was as low as 35·1 per mille, the lowest recorded rate since 1894, and 6·7 below the birth-rate of the preceding year. The low rate is clearly attributable to the severe outbreak of malaria which marked the closing months of 1908. In spite of this low birth-rate the climatic conditions in 1909 were so generally favourable to the public health, and led to such a decline on the death-rate that the increase in population during the year was 4·2 per mille, as against an actual decrease in 1908 of 8·93. This death-rate was the lowest recorded since 1900, and was mainly due to a reduction in the number of deaths from fever and plague.

Cholera.

177. Turning to individual diseases, cholera claimed considerably fewer victims than in the previous year—the mortality being 0·08 per mille as against 0·61 in 1908. At the same time the disease was widely spread, only 4 districts out of 29 escaping. No less than 18 districts owed their infection to pilgrims returning from the Baisakhi fair at Hardwár. The source of the infection is suspected to be the Bhimgoda tank at that place, and the question of protecting it from contamination is under the consideration of the United Provinces Government.

Small-pox.

178. The death-rate from small-pox was the lowest on record since 1892. There were only 3,552 deaths from this cause.

Plague.

179. There was a slight increase in the mortality from plague as compared with 1908, during which year the epidemic was an exceptionally mild one. The districts of Muzaffargarh and Multán were practically for the first time infected, having hitherto enjoyed almost complete immunity from the disease. The outbreak in Multán city was a severe one, the death-rate amounting to 17·82. A large staff was employed throughout the province to combat the disease, but

active co-operation on the part of the people was conspicuous by its absence. Increasing doubts were cast on the efficacy of rat destruction. A relieving feature, however, is a gradual tendency on the part of the people to evacuate infected villages and neighbourhoods themselves, while it is not too much to hope that the important measure of administration of ordinary medical relief by the plague staff will in time gain their confidence and co-operation.

Malaria.

180. The severe outbreak of malaria in 1908 did not really come to an end till the spring of 1909. In view of the experience of the previous autumn, an elaborate system was organised of free distribution of quinine to the poor and distribution at cost price to those who could afford to pay. To these efforts must be attributed the mild form the disease took in the autum of 1909. The total death-rate from malaria stood at 20·40 or 2·07 below the quinquennial average.

49. Emigration and Immigration.

(There is nothing to report under this heading.)

50. Medical Relief.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

181. Twenty-one new dispensaries were opened and four were closed during the year, raising the total number of hospitals and dispensaries to 455.

Patients.

182. There were 4,511,751 patients of all classes treated during 1909 against 4,582,649 in the preceding year, the decline in the number being due to the fact that the year was on the whole a healthy one, more especially as regards malaria.

The total number of in-patients treated amounted to 77,935 as against 72,492 in 1908. The number of beds maintained was 4,043 as compared with 3,840 in the previous year. The buildings completed during the year include new hospitals at Rohtak, Jullundur and Moga, a new female out-patient department at Jhang, a contagious ward at Lyallpur and an eye ward at Bhiwáni. The committee appointed to design standard plans for hospitals and dispensaries completed their labours during the year under review. The designing of plans for new projects should in future be greatly facilitated.

There were increases of 14,724 and 19,755 in the number of Hindu and Muhammadan females who applied for treatment. There are now 5 female Assistant Surgeons and 11 Female Hospital Assistants attached to the hospitals and dispensaries maintained by local bodies at the head-quarters of districts.

Income and expenditure.

183. The total income of the hospitals and dispensaries came to Rs. 13,45,821, as compared with Rs. 11,82,265 in 1909. Part of the increase is due to grants from Government for building purposes. Municipalities provided Rs. 4,52,363 as against Rs. 4,07,394, and district boards Rs. 4,65,449 as against Rs. 3,64,819. This affords, so far as it goes, satisfactory evidence of the interest taken by local bodies in the institutions maintained by them. The total expenditure was Rs. 12,30,360 against Rs. 10,88,804 in 1908, the increase being due to the construction of buildings, increase of wages of menial servants and the purchase of new surgical instruments and appliances and other hospital necessaries as well as to the opening of new dispensaries.

The staff of the Medical College was materially strengthened in 1909 by the appointment of whole time Professors of Ophthalmology and Midwifery.

Pasteur Institute.

184. There was again a very marked rise in the number of persons treated at this institution. In 1908, 1,389 patients were treated; in 1909 the figure rose to 1,937. There were nearly double as many cases from the United Provinces as in the previous year. Additional quarters were provided for indigent patients, and fire tanks were constructed in the immediate proximity of the institute. Further considerable additions are contemplated to provide waiting rooms, laboratories, quarters for poor patients, and a hostel for middle class Indians.

185. The rise in the daily average strength continues and the figure for 1909 was 632·85. Lunatic Asylum.

The new buildings were occupied in November. The Asylum can now accommodate 782 patients. There can, however, be little hope of providing a separate annexe for criminal insanes in the present state of provincial finances.

The health of the patients was unfortunately a source of much anxiety. The death-rate rose from 73 to 85. Much of this sickness is due to the filthy habits of the inmates, and an inquiry was started into the etiology of the bowel complaints which are so unfortunately prevalent in the Asylum.

186. The work done in the Chemical Examiner's Laboratory continues to increase, the number of cases examined in 1909 being 1,528 including 4,149 articles as against 1,475 cases and 3,966 articles in 1908. The percentage of detection has risen in all classes of case, which reflects credit on the Police Department and investigating officers generally. Chemical Examiner.

The use of arsenic in human poisoning has decreased; the effect of the working of the rules under the Poisons Act has apparently at length shown itself. On the other hand dhatûra was more freely used. During the year the Government considered the advisability of taking action under the Act with reference to the juice of the Ak, but the idea was found to be impracticable.

51. Sanitation.

187. A sum of one lakh was placed at the disposal of the Sanitary Board for distribution to local bodies as grants-in-aid for sanitary works in 1909-10. The principal grant was one of Rs. 37,500 to the Amritsar sullage scheme. Sanitary Board.

188. Among the more important projects sanctioned by Government during the year were drainage schemes for the Town Hall and suburbs of Multán, Rs. 21,500; the clock tower area of Amritsar, Rs. 34,500; an intra-mural drainage scheme for the town of Gujrát, Rs. 37,000; a project for the drainage, water-supply and gateway of the new market at Pattoki in the Chunián Colony, Rs. 44,800; and a scheme for the construction of a balancing or service reservoir near the Ferozepore Road, Lahore. The latter project is to cost Rs. 89,000. Sanitary works.

A very valuable improvement has been effected at the Delhi Water-Works by connecting the wells with the suction at the intake enabling clear water to be drawn from the wells when the river is in flood. The Delhi suburban drainage works are making good progress.

Two experiments with perforated tube wells were carried out at Lahore—one near the Female Jail and the other at the water-supply head works at a cost of about Rs. 2,900 each. They were found fairly successful.

189. Works of public utility costing nearly Rs. 1,70,000 were constructed by private individuals at their own expense. General.

During the year under report sanitary note-books were opened in sixteen villages of the Shahpur district in addition to those already maintained in other districts. It is hoped that once the system of rewards gets started the note-books will be useful. Special attention was paid to the matter by the Civil Surgeon of Karnál. In the Gurgaon district these books are maintained in 50 villages.

52. Vaccination.

190. The total cost of the department was Rs. 1,20,509 as against Rs. 1,14,761 last year. The increase is due to a rise of pay being sanctioned for the staff in certain districts, to contingencies on account of house-rent for vaccination stations in certain municipalities, and to cost of vaccine supplied from the Punjab Vaccine Institute. Expenditure.

Total operations.

191. Notwithstanding the prevalence of plague in the province and the consequent difficulty of successfully prosecuting vaccination operations, there was a small increase of 1,638 in the total number of vaccinations performed.

General.

192. Under orders of Government conveyed in April 1909, Superintendents of Vaccination were placed under the control of local bodies. At present therefore Divisional Inspectors only are under the control of the Sanitary Commissioner.

A trial was made of house-to-house vaccination. Opinions on the success of this plan of operations are varied. While it is popular in many districts, it is not suitable for all parts of the province, especially so in the case of hilly tracts, where the houses are scattered at considerable distances from each other and often difficult of access. It is accordingly proposed to continue this system only in those districts and towns where the experiment was successful. There is still much room for improvement in certain towns, notably Delhi, Lahore and Amritsar, where a large number of children remained unprotected. A stricter application of the Act is very necessary in these cases. In Lahore small-pox is usually prevalent in an epidemic form in the spring.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

[For detailed information see the Punjab Education Report for 1909-10 and Statistics of British India, Part VII—Educational.]

53. General System of Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 616-35 of the report of 1901-02.)

54. Education.

General statistics.

193. There were 4,351 public and 2,882 private institutions of various kinds in existence in 1909-10 compared with 4,404 and 2,699 in the previous year. Secondary schools have increased satisfactorily, but there has been a large decrease in primary schools. This decrease is partly due to a weeding out of inefficient and ill-attended schools, which had been started in advance of the demand, and it is not, therefore, a sign of retrogression.

The figures of attendance in public institutions show a remarkable increase of 22,933 pupils, of which number 3,676 were females. The total number of scholars was 276,717, of whom 245,722 were males and 30,995 females. Of these, 2,656 attended arts or professional colleges, 85,932 secondary schools and 184,255 primary schools. The total attendance in private institutions was 49,363, of whom 3,386 were pupils in advanced schools. The statistics show that 22·02 per cent. of all towns and villages are provided with schools and 17·39 of the male and 3·12 of the female population are receiving instruction. The total expenditure on public institutions of all kinds increased by Rs. 2,84,104 to Rs. 58,43,382. Direct expenditure, *i.e.*, on tuition, increased by Rs. 1,99,395 to Rs. 36,86,429 and indirect expenditure, *i. e.*, on inspection, scholarships, buildings, &c., by Rs. 84,709 to Rs. 21,56,953. Of the increase in provincial expenditure Rs. 58,000 more were spent on the Medical and Agricultural Colleges. Less was spent on the Government College, secondary schools under Government management, and training institutions. The net expenditure of district boards on secondary schools increased, while their expenditure on primary schools fell off by Rs. 12,474, and on buildings and furniture, chiefly of primary schools, by Rs. 19,764. It should be noted that of the total direct net expenditure of the boards on vernacular middle and primary schools, *viz.*, some 8 lakhs, Rs. 4,20,000, or more than half, are contributed by special grants from imperial and provincial funds for primary education. Receipts from fees have increased in secondary schools by over one lakh, and also in arts colleges and boarding-houses: in primary schools they are practically stationary, while they have fallen in the case of the University.

General progress.

194. The chief educational measures of the year were—(*a*) the introduction of a uniform school year which will in future coincide with the financial year, a change which was recommended by the Educational Conference of 1909, and which is believed to be in the interests of schools generally, (*b*) the discontinuance of the system by which Inspectors and their assistants were bound to visit all the schools in a district within a fixed period, for the purpose of awarding grants and issuing upper primary certificates, and (*c*) a consequent re-arrangement of the duties of District Inspectors, who are no longer employed outside their own districts. Endeavour was also made to simplify the system of reports and to curtail clerical work of a routine nature in the Inspectors' offices. Boarding-houses attached to Government schools were made more self-supporting, and a higher scale of fees was introduced in the Central Model School, Lahore. It is satisfactory to learn from the Inspectors' reports that the district officers have cordially co-operated with the department in educational administration.

Collegiate education.

195. *The University.*—The expenditure rose by Rs. 7,054 to Rs. 1,93,697 and the receipts by Rs. 10,690 to Rs. 2,13,211. Among the changes in the regulations may be noticed the separation of history from political economy for the degree examinations; the inter-collegiate rules were also revised. Bishop Cotton School, Auckland House and St. Bede's College were disaffiliated on the ground that these institutions no longer needed the privileges of affiliation, and could not fulfil the necessary conditions. The B. A. classes of the Hindu College, Delhi, were also disaffiliated. At Convocations held in April and December, honorary degrees were conferred on His Excellency the Viceroy and on Sir P. C. Chatterjee, formerly Vice-Chancellor: 227 candidates, more by 55 than in 1908, received degrees.

The number of students in Arts Colleges rose from 1,860 to 2,022, of whom 1,483 were in the four Lahore Arts Colleges. The cost of education in these four colleges varies considerably, as will appear from the following figures:—

Name of College.	Number of students.	Expenditure.	Portion thereof defrayed by fees.	Cost of education per head.
		Rs.	Per cent.	Rs.
Government College	402	1,13,893	30	283
Forman Christian College	426	47,590	64	112
Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College	543	22,128	81	41
Islamia College	112	20,402	20	182

The disparity in the figures exhibited above is remarkable. It is no doubt capable of explanation. The high cost of instruction in the Government College, for instance, is probably due to the large number of highly paid Professors and is also possibly connected with the expensiveness of laboratory apparatus, the chief development in this college being on the science side.

Secondary Education (Boys).

196. The number of schools rose from 296 to 304. The number of pupils rose by 10,182 to 71,784, the increase being chiefly in the Lahore and Ráwalpindi divisions, and in high schools—in vernacular middle schools it was 2,087. This unprecedented rate of increase points to the growing strength of the demand for higher and especially English education, a demand which the existing schools find it difficult to cope with. The total expenditure rose to 15¼ lakhs of rupees. In the University Entrance Examination 1,500 candidates passed out of 3,094 sent up, an improvement on last year's result. In the Middle Vernacular School Examination 1,219 passed out of 1,743 or 70 per cent. Owing to the comparatively low emoluments of the profession little advance in the quality of the instruction is noticeable. There are, however, signs that the importance of training character is being more fully realised. The lack of funds has prevented the carrying into effect of the schemes elaborated some years ago for providing Government schools with new or improved buildings and the very inferior housing of these schools has militated against their usefulness.

Primary Education (Boys).

197. The number of elementary schools conforming to departmental standards fell from 3,408 to 3,345.

Board schools decreased chiefly in the Jullundur and Ráwalpindi divisions, where several district boards found it necessary to retrench their educational expenditure. The policy in some districts is now to spend money more on increasing teachers' pay and rendering the existing schools efficient, than on opening a number of experimental new schools in advance of the demand. Till funds are more plentiful this course has much to recommend it.

The number of pupils rose by 8,506 to 158,312. The increase is, however, confined to the Jullundur and Lahore divisions: the more backward portions of the province are making no perceptible advance.

The total direct expenditure on primary education was Rs. 8,24,758 or much the same as last year. There is general evidence that agriculturists are gradually realising the advantage of sending their children to school. They now form 49·5 per cent. of the pupils in primary schools. The aided indigenous schools which give instruction of a simpler type than in board primary schools are becoming less and less popular. It does not appear that Gurmukhi schools are gaining in favour, and until the demand for Punjabi becomes strong and articulate there can be no question of making this language compulsory.

The supply of teachers is still far short of the demand. Of 4,188 teachers employed in primary schools only 2,423 are trained men.

Training Colleges.

198. The number of training institutions remains the same. It is to be feared that there is a deterioration in the quality of the candidates coming forward for training in the Central Training College; the number of graduates this year was only 17. The scanty emoluments of the profession are no doubt largely the cause of this. All the successful students, however, obtained employment, the holders of the B. T. degree on salaries ranging as high as Rs. 150 and upwards.

The number of students in the Normal Schools rose from 371 to 390. The work done in these schools is favourably reported on. A new and useful feature was introduced into the curriculum of the Normal School for Women, Lahore, in the shape of lectures on simple physiology and hygiene.

Special education.

199. The results of the University Examination of students at the Law College were satisfactory. Eighty-four candidates in the First Examination in Law (English) passed out of 117. Additions were made to the staff of the Medical College of Professors of midwifery and opthalmology. After the conference on commercial education held in 1905 a number of clerical and commerical classes were started in connection with Government High Schools. It has since become increasingly evident that if such instruction is to succeed in achieving its aims it must be specialised and concentrated. It is now proposed to develop the Government Clerical and Commerical School at Amritsar and also the Delhi classes, and if possible add another year to the period of training.

The Lyallpur Agricultural College was opened during the year.

Female education.

200. The number of schools remained 625. There was an increase in the number of scholars, amounting to 3,372, as compared with 1,328 last year. In addition to the marked increase in the number of pupils during the year there are many signs that the education of girls is being more fully realised as one of the needs of the time. Higher education is being taken up energetically by private bodies, and the new unaided schools, such as those of the Maharani of Burdwán, the Vedic Putri Pathshala and the Khatri Girls' School at Lahore, all aim at having high departments.

European education.

201. The number of schools is the same as last year. The number of pupils has risen from 2,315 to 2,409. The expenditure amounted to 6½ lakhs, of which 3¾ lakhs were obtained from fees and private sources. The examination results show a marked improvement.

Education of special classes.

202. The average attendance at the Aitchison Chiefs' College showed a distinct improvement and the health of the boys was good.

There was a remarkable increase in the number of Muhammadan boys at public institutions. They now number 97,884. It is in the primary stage of education that Muhammadans have multiplied most; in secondary classes Hindus are over 1,000 more and increase at a greater rate. This is attributed to the comparative poverty of Muhammadans and their tendency on leaving the primary school to take to their parents' vocations.

Miscellaneous.

203. Special attention was paid during the year to the question of moral training. The Director discusses the subject at length in his report. It is impossible to recapitulate all his conclusions here, but the most important of them, *viz.*, that the effect of direct moral teaching is in proportion to the earnestness and character of the teacher, and that the value of undenominational moral text-books is inconsiderable, may be thoroughly endorsed.

55. Literature and the Press.

Literature.

204. The number of publications received for registration increased by 6 and stood at 1,191. Of these 533 were in Urdu, 299 in Panjabi, 86 in English, 75 in Hindi. Of the total number 442 were either republications or translations.

In the domain of Art an interesting work was rendered into Hindi by Pandit Vishnu Digambar. It is called "Naradiya Shiksha" and is an orthography of sound like the Shiksha or the orthography of the Vedas. It treats of musical notes, the organs which produce sounds, the good and bad points of singers, &c. A number of books have also appeared which contain selections of songs sung by various religious societies or taken from the dramatic plays performed by theatrical companies. These offer some indications of a musical revival.

There is a continued improvement in the illustrations of books issue by certain firms. Artistic printing and binding is also occasionally noticeable.

The novel shows decided improvement. There are, however, few translations of European novels this year, which is to be deplored. Two translations of Bengali novels, "Durgesh Nandni" and "Fateh-i-Bengal" have been reprinted. A large number of historical novels appeared, and from the volume of these turned out year after year it seems as if the readers of vernacular literature enjoy reading about great events and military exploits.

Political subjects occupied greater attention this year; several biographies of political leaders were published, in particular of Tilak and Ranade. Translations also appeared of speeches of political leaders, Indian and foreign, such as Mr. Justice Amir Ali, Bepin Chandra Pal, B.A., and Tilak. The original works institute comparisons between India and England, or deal with the poverty of India, the conquest of India, the mutiny, etc. A number of these works were considered seditious, and the authors and publishers prosecuted.

Under the head of medicine, 43 books were published. The indigenous Vaidic and Yunani system, which are advocated by the Hindu Vaids and Muhammadan Hakims, retain their hold on the people of the Punjab, and a number of books on these systems were published of which a translation of the "Charak Sanhita" and the "Gulzar-i-Tib" and "Majma-i-Asrar-i-Tilismi" deserve notice.

There are a large number of books on social reform. Superstition, child marriage, the pardah system, dancing girls, the evils of intemperance, all are subjects of criticism.

Poetry as usual accounts for the largest number of publications, but there is very little improvement in the quality of the work turned out. The fact, however, remains that poetry and religion are most popular with authors and readers in the Punjab and these are the books which find their way into the homes of the people.

Of the five books of travel "Safarnama-i-Europe" by Mahbub-i-Alam is interesting; "Muqami Khilafat" by Abdul Qadir, which gives an account of the author's visit to Constantinople, with a description of the Turkish people, is also readable and is well printed and illustrated.

Newspapers.

205. There were 265 newspapers published during the year. Of these 24 were published in English, 1 in English, Persian and Urdu, 206 in Urdu, 1 in Urdu-Hindi, 1 in Urdu-Pushto, 9 in Hindi and 23 in Gurmukhi. One English and 72 Vernacular newspapers were started, and 2 English and 63 Vernacular newspapers ceased to exist during the year, leaving a total of 200 on the register. Four papers were published quarterly, 134 monthly, 34 twice a month, 4 thrice a month, 78 weekly, 4 twice a week and 1 thrice a week. There were 6 daily papers.

Press prosecutions and warnings.

206. The "*Hindustan*" was warned for the publication of libellous articles against Sheikh Asghar Ali, Deputy Commissioner, Gujránwála; the "*Hunter*" was warned for publishing matter offensive to Hindus; and the "*Akhbar-i-'Am*" for failure to comply with the provisions of section 3, Act XXV of 1867.

The following papers were prosecuted under section 124 A, Indian Penal Code:—

(1) The "*Peshwa*" (Lahore), for publishing an article entitled "Akhiri Awaz," in its issue of 30th August 1909. The Editor, Zia-ul-Haq, was convicted and sentenced to five years' transporation.

(2) The "*Sahaik*" (Lahore), for publishing an article entitled "An old dodge" in its issue of 11th October 1909. The Editor, Munshi Ram Sewak, was convicted and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

(3) The "*Bedari*" (Lahore), for publishing an article entitled "The brothers of Raja Harnakash" and also a cartoon in its issue of 5th October 1909. The Editor, Ishri Parshad, was convicted and sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment.

(4) The "*Akash*" (Delhi), for publishing a poem entitled "Mother Bharat's Cry" in its issue of the 4th November 1909. The case against the Editor, Ganeshi Lal, a mere man of straw, was withdrawn on his tendering an apology and undertaking never again to produce or publish seditious matter.

Ishri Parshad, Editor of the "*Sahaik*" (Lahore), was also sentenced to 9 months' simple imprisonment, under section 501, Indian Penal Code, for publishing an article grossly libelling the entire police force.

The appeals in all these cases were rejected by the Chief Court.

Proceedings under section 3 of the Newspapers (Incitement to Offences) Act, 1908, were instituted against the "*Tilak*" newspaper of Hoshiárpur in respect of a ghazal (poem) by "Ram," which appeared in its issue of the 6th May 1909. The press at which the paper was printed was confiscated on the 30th June 1909, the order being subsequently made absolute. No appeal was preferred.

56. Literary Societies.

[See report for 1901-02. The subject will not be dealt with again till 1911-12.]

57. Arts and Sciences.

Lahore Museum.

207. The large gatherings in Lahore in the months of December and January on account of the Exhibition and public conferences accounted for a rise of 29,398 in the number of visitors to the Lahore Museum.

A valuable addition was made to the coin cabinet of 40 rare gold and 77 silver coins of the Moghal Emperors purchased from the collection of the Bahâwalpur State.

A number of interesting additions were made to the raw product section, which has been considerably improved, including samples of the Punjab wheats and other agricultural specimens. A good collection of clays and colours used by potters was also received from the various districts.

The Art Sale Room is now to be closed. Space will thus be gained for the accommodation of the valuable sculptures and other antiquities.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

[Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the following publications:—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for 1909-10; Annual Progress Report of the Superintendent of the Archæological Survey, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1910.]

58. Archæology.

208. The edging of the water channels at Humayun's tomb, Delhi, with red Agra sandstone was completed during the year, and also the improvements to the grass plots at Jehangir's tomb at Shahdara. Progress was made with certain improvements to the Hayat Bakhsh Garden, Delhi Fort. Steps were taken to preserve from further injury the temples at Baijnath in Kángra and Jagatsukh in Kulu.

209. Twenty-four of the more important Buddhist and Brahminical monuments in the province have been declared 'protected' under a notification of the Local Government issued in December 1909.

210. A list of the ancient monuments in the Punjab has now been taken in hand. It should be an interesting and useful document.

211. An appeal was made by the Lieutenant-Governor at the Delhi Divisional Darbar in February 1910 on behalf of the Naubat Khana Museum which contains an interesting collection. The appeal has already produced some results.

212. The publication of 76 plates containing 116 drawings relating to tile mosaics in the Lahore Fort was sanctioned during the year. This will be a very valuable work.

213. The Superintendent's report on the Antiquities of Chamba State is now being printed, and it is hoped will appear next year.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

[See page 189 of the report for the year 1901-02. The Bishop of Lahore also exercises ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the Persian Gulf.]

60. Ecclesiastical.

214. The various ecclesiastical institutions were noticed in the report for the year 1901-02. During the present year serious damage was caused to St. James' Church at Delhi by the collapse of the outer dome, ball and cross. The catastrophe occurred most providentially three quarters of an hour after a Sunday evening service, and no lives were lost. Measures were taken to arrange for the immediate repair of the church at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,500. For the restoration of the Anglican Church in Dharmsála, which was destroyed by the earthquake of 1905, the Government of India have intimated their willingness to give a grant-in-aid of Rs. 5,000, which is admissible under the rules, provided private subscriptions could be raised to meet the balance of the cost which is estimated at Rs. 21,500. An increased establishment allowance was sanctioned for the Roman Catholic Church in Ráwalpindi and the Anglican Church at Subáthu, while new articles of service and the usual allowances for establishment were sanctioned for the Scots Churches recently built at Ambála and Ráwalpindi.

61. Stationery.

215. The Punjab Administration draws its supply of stationery from the Calcutta stores. The value of stationery issued to officers in the Punjab during the year aggregated Rs. 2,26,738 as against Rs. 2,38,906 in the previous year,—cost of printing paper Rs. 1,27,626, office stationery Rs. 98,783 and padlocks Rs. 329 against Rs 1,08,897, Rs. 1,28,208 and Rs. 1,801, respectively, last year.

62. Punjab Government Press.

216. The following statement compares the income and expenditure with the value of work turned out during the years 1908-09 and 1909-10 :—

Income.		Expenditure.		Value of work turned out.	
1908-09.	1909-10.	1908-09.	1909-10.	1908-09.	1909-10.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
19,326	21,902	1,62,877	1,95,818	1,51,236	1,22,895

The income of the Press during the year under report was Rs. 21,902 as against Rs. 19,326 in the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,95,818 against Rs. 1,62,877 in 1908-09. The cost of work done by the Contractors for Government Printing for departments and offices during 1909-10 was Rs. 67,566 as against Rs. 56,172.

63. Lahore Exhibition, 1909-10.

217. The record of the history of 1909-10 would be incomplete without some account of the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition of the Punjab, North-West Frontier Province and Kashmir, which was held at Lahore during the winter. Early in February 1909, when it became known that the Indian National Congress would meet at Lahore about the close of the year, the Provincial Congress Committee resolved that an Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition should be held at the same time under non-political auspices. On the 26th February 1909 a meeting of representatives of all sections of the community was held at Lahore, and it was unanimously resolved to hold an Exhibition of Arts, Industries and Agriculture, and a general committee was appointed to carry out this resolution. The general committee, at a meeting held on the 6th March 1909, appointed an Executive Committee under the presidency of Sir P. C. Chatterji, Kt., C.I.E., to which it delegated its functions of control and supervision. The Executive Committee in turn appointed a number of sub-committees to assist in the details of the various branches of work connected with the Exhibition.

It may here be explained that in contrast with the three previous exhibitions held at Lahore, in 1864, 1881 and 1893, which were purely official, the display was on this occasion primarily and mainly the outcome of private enterprise, assisted by the Government officers connected with the major industries of the Province, but still non-official entirely in its management and direction. At the same time the scheme received the cordial support of the Local Government, which authorised the committee to apply for help and co-operation to Heads of Departments, Commissioners, District Officers, municipal committees and district boards. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor also accepted the invitation of the Committee to become a Patron of the Exhibition, and authorised it to approach the ruling Chiefs and leading personages of the Punjab with a similar request, and promised that the Local Government would guarantee it against any loss that might occur, to the extent of one lakh. His Honour agreed at the same time to commend the scheme to the notice of the Chief Commissioner, North-West Frontier Province. For the site of the Exhibition the Committee obtained permission from the Military authorities to use the plot of ground adjacent to the Fort and Badami Bagh Station.

A number of the ruling Chiefs consented to become Patrons and subscribed towards the funds, and some of them organised courts in which the products of the industries of their States were exhibited, and also assisted the Committee with the loan of tents. The total amount subscribed by the Chiefs amounted to about Rs. 38,000. The local bodies of the province also responded liberally to the appeal made to them, furnishing subscriptions to the amount of Rs. 34,000, and co-operating in a variety of ways. Considerable assistance was rendered by them in the preparation as well as the collection of exhibits belonging to the prominent industries carried on in their districts. Local committees were formed in a number of places which encouraged the preparation of suitable exhibits by advancing funds to workmen. In the case of poor exhibitors the local bodies collected their exhibits and saved them the fees charged to individual exhibitors. It may be added that assistance was furnished by the grant of concessions on freight on exhibits by the various railway administrations; and the North-Western Railway in particular helped by lending rails and corrugated iron sheeting. The Lahore municipal committee gave a liberal donation and also the assistance of its officers who organised and supervised the sanitary arrangements, constructed the roads and stadium, devised and carried out the whole of the lighting arrangements, and arranged for the water-supply. The total amount realised from the subscriptions of private individuals was about Rs. 63,000.

The exhibition was opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on December 11th, 1909, with a suitable ceremonial, a notable feature of which was a procession of elephants. The proceedings were opened with a speech by the

General Secretary, Lala Harkishen Lal, containing a brief account of the origin of the Exhibition, its organisation and development. This was followed by speeches by the President, Sir P. C. Chatterji, Kt., C.I.E., and Maulvi Rahim Bakhsh, C.I.E. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, before formally declaring the exhibition open, delivered an address, in which he made a comprehensive survey of the past and present agricultural, industrial and economic conditions of the Punjab, and indicated the various directions in which the future development of the province might be expected to proceed.

The grounds on which the Exhibition was held extended over an area of nearly 100 acres with a fence nearly 7,500 feet in length. The main buildings covered an area of over 100,000 square feet, while thatched and temporary structures accounted for another 30,000 square feet, tents covering a considerable area in addition. The number of exhibitors exceeded 1,200, and would have been larger but for several hundreds of them having sent their exhibits through local bodies or their respective States. The States of Kashmír, Patiála, Baháwalpur, Kapúrthala, Faridkot and Máler Kotla had their own courts, whilst other States sent exhibits, which were accommodated in the various general courts. Of the more important States outside the Punjab which contributed, may be mentioned Mysore, Baroda, Travancore, Bikáner, Gwálior, Jaipur, Bhavnagar, Dhar and Bhopál.

Among the many interesting sections of the Exhibition it is difficult to single out any in particular for special notice, but possibly the most prominent features of the display were the exhibits under the heads of Agriculture and Irrigation. In the case of the former these comprised, among other objects of interest, collections of indigenous and improved implements, and a great variety of specimens of up-to-date labour-saving appliances, including a model grain elevator, of which demonstrations were given daily. The principal products of each district of the Punjab were collected and specimens from other provinces, and where possible from foreign countries. The entomological section was very complete. A model of a veterinary hospital, a collection of anatomical models and a collection of bacteria which attack cattle may be mentioned among the many interesting exhibits of the Veterinary Department. An instructive working display was given illustrative of the industries of bee-keeping and poultry-rearing. The exhibit of the Irrigation Department showed by a series of models in a most clear and intelligible fashion the methods by which control has been secured over the rivers and the use which has been made of their waters. A collection of water-lifts and pumps aroused much interest. The Forest Department contributed a resin still, a consignment of sleepers preserved by the 'Powell' process and a collection of ornamental and useful woods. A Fishery exhibit from the Government of Bengal attracted considerable attention. The section devoted to indigenous industrial products was very complete, and the collections under the heads of Textiles, Metal wares and utensils, Decoration and Furniture, Chemical Industries, and various industries were most instructive. A special competition in hand-loom weaving was a notable feature. The exhibits of the Jail Department displayed a high order of merit. The Lahore School of Art and other important educational institutions in the capital of the Province and the Madras School of Art were well represented. The Sanitary Department furnished an instructive exhibit of sanitary and insanitary houses for peasants and others, and a display by the Jail Department of the whole process of manufacturing quinine tablets was much appreciated, and nearly 40,000 tablets sold.

In addition to the exhibits proper, liberal provision was made for the entertainment of visitors in the shape of wrestling and other sports, acrobatic and gymnastic displays, fireworks, bioscopes and the like.

The final accounts of the Exhibition had not been made up at the close of the financial year. Owing to its connection with the Congress the Exhibition had to be held at a season of the year which is not suitable for such displays in Lahore, but it was, however, very well attended, though the weather was unfortunately very unpropitious at first. It was not finally closed till

February 7th, 1910. It only remains to notice the names of a few of the persons most prominently connected with the organisation and management of the Exhibition, *viz.*, Sir P. C. Chatterji, Kt., C.I.E., President of the Executive Committee, Lala Harkishan Lal, General Secretary, Rai Sahib Ruchi Ram, Member of the General Purposes Sub-Committee, and Rai Sahib Kunj Behari, Thapar, Corresponding Secretary. Much useful work was also done by Khan Bahadur Muhammad Ali Khan Kazilbash, Rai Sahib Ram Saran Das, Rai Sahib Mohan Lal, Rai Bahadur Lala Lal Chand, Rai Sahib Balmokand and Mian Siraj-ud-din.

PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT, 1910-1911.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1910-1911.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1910-11.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(The "year" throughout this report is not invariably the financial year ending 31st March 1911. At the heading of each chapter, with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1911, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1910, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1910.

The Administration Report for 1901-02 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.)

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel of the administration.

1. Sir Louis William Dane, G.C.I.E., C.S.I., held charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor throughout the year.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES.

Political.

2. The Maharaja of Patiala was on the 3rd November 1910 formally invested with full powers by His Excellency Lord Minto, who visited the State for the purpose. The new Khanpur-Chachran feeder line in Bahawalpur was opened by His Honour Sir Louis Dane in February. The line is 22 miles in length, and is likely to be of great value to the State, which provided the funds for its construction. A Council of three was appointed by the Raja of Nabha to assist him in the administration. On the application of the Raja of Mandi an officer of the Indian Civil Service was lent to the State, for employment as Settlement Officer. Disturbances were at one time threatened in the Rohru tahsil of the Bashahr State, but steps were taken to deal with the ringleaders and tranquillity was restored. Rana Gyan Chand of Jubbal died in April 1910 and was succeeded by his half-brother, Baghat Chand.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

3. Agricultural conditions throughout the year 1910-11 were favourable, though somewhat less so than in the previous twelve months. The health of the people was good, apart from a recrudescence of plague.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Land Revenue.

4. The revenue year 1909-10 was one of the most prosperous of recent times. The monsoon broke early, and rain was well and evenly distributed until the middle of September. The later rainfall was deficient in the Rawalpindi division, but elsewhere it minimised the effects of the comparatively dry winter which followed. Both harvests were consequently good, the kharif being estimated at 21 per cent. above the quinquennial average, while the area sown in the rabi was 19 per cent. above the normal. The total matured area of the Province was 25½ million acres, which is 16 per cent. above the average of the past five years.

The current land revenue demand was accordingly collected almost in its entirety. The collections of outstanding arrears were satisfactory. At the close of the previous year the arrears stood at Rs. 38¾ lakhs. Of this Rs. 23 lakhs were collected during the past year, Rs. 7¾ lakhs were remitted, and Rs. 7¾ lakhs remain suspended. The heavy arrears in the Delhi division were nearly wiped out.

An amendment of the statement of coercive processes has been carried out, and a further improvement recently suggested will distinguish between processes issued and those actually executed. Resort to compulsion is comparatively rare, and additional evidence is thereby afforded of the lightness of our assessments, if indeed such evidence were needed in view of the statistics of incidence, which show that the land revenue falls on the cultivated area of the Province at the rate of Re. 1-1-8 per acre, and on the population at the rate of Re. 1-8-4 per head.

The fluctuating land revenue demand increased by a lakh of rupees and stood at Rs. 54 lakhs, of which only Rs. 15,000 remained uncollected. In deference to the wishes of revenue-payers, fluctuating assessments have been replaced by fixed assessments in Karnal and Rohtak.

The increase of nearly one lakh in revenue assignments is due mainly to revisions of assessment. The consolidation of *jagirs* by the acceptance of the rule of integral descent proceeds slowly, and many large assignees do not seem yet to have realised the advantages which the rule secures.

Survey.

5. Three survey parties were at work in the Punjab, and good progress was made with the revision of the 1 inch topographical sheets of the north-western districts of the Province. It is especially important, now that fixed boundaries have been laid along the Punjab rivers, to have reliable data given from which to relay any boundary which may temporarily disappear. These data can best be supplied by the Survey Department, which has been asked to furnish estimates of the cost and the time likely to be taken in carrying out this riverain survey.

Settlements.

6. Eight districts were under settlement during the year, and in three of them—Karnal, Rohtak and Delhi—operations were concluded. The progress made both in re-measurement and re-assessment was highly satisfactory.

The rapidity with which the Ludhiana settlement is being completed received special commendation. The reduction in the cost of settlements, consequent on the shortening of the settlement period, by avoiding remeasurement where possible is equally satisfactory, while the saving in harassment to the people is a great gain. A further simplification of the map revision is being worked out, and an interesting attempt is being made in Gujrat to bring the maps and records up to date before settlement operations begin. *Killabandi*, that is to say, the demarcation of rectangular fields of uniform area, is becoming increasingly popular, even in old districts, where canal irrigation is introduced. The inauguration of three new settlements in the autumn of 1910 relieved to a great extent the pressure among the subordinate settlement staff.

Land Records.

7. The marked increase in the number of patwaris who belong to agricultural tribes is satisfactory, though it is doubtless due in part to the inclusion of Gaur Brahmans in this category. The percentage of patwaris who have passed the Middle School examination continues to increase slowly but steadily, and now stands at 44 as compared with 35 six years ago.

The fact that only 12 patwaris out of 8,797 were promoted to kanungo indicates that more regard should be paid to the orders of Government that two posts of kanungo out of every three should be given to patwaris.

Colonies.

8. Once more it was a year of almost unbroken prosperity in the Punjab Colonies. On the Chenab, although allotments on any considerable scale have long been complete, the cultivated area rose by some 50,000 acres, and the area sown for all harvests exceeded the area allotted by 115,000 acres, or 8 per cent. The percentage allowed for failed crops was 7·66 per cent., which means in effect that the Chenab Colony has matured an acre of crop for every acre allotted. It was never contemplated that more than 75 per cent. of the area should be irrigated in both harvests, and the original scheme was for 66 per cent. only. The extensive and heavy irrigation is causing some apprehension as to water-logging, especially in the upper part of the Colony, where the water level has risen from 60 feet to 30 feet. The vagaries of *kallar*, the vernacular name of the soda salts which render soil sterile, still defy the experts. In the Toba Tek Singh tahsil, where *kallar* was so apparent at allotment, it has largely disappeared, while in other localities, both in the Chenab and Jhelum Colonies, canal water seems to produce it. In the Jhelum Colony the continued success of the horse-breeding scheme is gratifying. If excessive sub-division of holdings can be prevented, the formation of a strong class of horse-breeding farmers, with the knowledge and the interest necessary to breed young stock, is not an impossible ideal. The success of the market towns in all the colonies is—with the unfortunate exception of Shah Jiwana—uninterrupted. The large amount of sovereigns in circulation in parts of the Colony is also high testimony to the activity of trade and the prosperity of the colonists.

Land Alienation Act.

9. Fresh light has been thrown on the important subject of land-ownership and land-transfers by the preparation of statistics in a new form. The figures show that 62 per cent. of the mortgagees of land in the Province holding 53 per cent. of the area mortgaged are themselves members of agricultural tribes. During the year under report the total area

redeemed from mortgage was 415,000 acres and the area mortgaged was 310,000 acres. For these areas the money paid was 2 crores and $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores, respectively. Better testimony of the increased value of land could hardly be desired.

PROTECTION.

Legislative Council.

10. The Bills introduced included among others a Municipal Bill, a Bill to amend the Punjab Courts Act, a Colonies Bill, and a Bill to establish village panchayats.

Two Acts, one to amend the Punjab Laws Act and one dealing with the Law of Arbitration in the Punjab, received the assent of the Governor-General in Council.

Police.

11. The total number of cognizable cases, though exhibiting a slight increase as compared with last year, was less than in any of the four preceding years except 1909. The large increase, however, in the more serious classes of offences gives rise to some anxiety. How far the increase in violent crime is due to strong drink is a matter on which opinion varies, but there appears to be very little doubt that the connection of drink with serious crime is one of the greatest dangers which threatens Punjab social life.

A more gratifying feature of the year is the recognition by Magistrates and Police alike that delays in procedure are largely responsible for the difficulties experienced in securing convictions. Special efforts have been made in Ferozepore to deal promptly with murder cases, and in Lahore a system has been introduced whereby the witnesses are produced at the time of the presentation of the police charge sheet before the Magistrate, and the courts devote the first three hours of the day to the trial of the cases as they are so presented.

It is satisfactory to record that all the Deputy Inspectors-General are agreed that year by year the police are getting more assistance from the general public, and that rewards on this account are being bestowed on the latter with greater liberality. The superior educational qualifications and social standing of the men now being recruited for the posts of Deputy Superintendent, Inspector and Sub-Inspector are matters for congratulation.

Criminal Justice.

12. The main features of the year were the increase in the more serious classes of offences, as already noted, and the growing lawlessness of the Central Punjab districts, as evinced by the increase of violent crime.

The small increase in the number of cases dismissed summarily under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, is so far satisfactory, but sufficient use is still not made of this section and of section 250, dealing with frivolous and vexatious complaints.

The difficulty of securing convictions in cases connected with women, which in several districts show a continued rise in numbers, is commented upon by more than one District Magistrate. To make women punishable under section 498, Indian Penal Code, as is provided by the Frontier Regulation in the case of adultery, is a solution which finds favour with many.

13. The outstanding features of the jail administration in the province during the year have been the further progress made towards the concentration of prisoners entailing the closing of the Simla jail and the conversion of those at Amritsar, Karnal, Hoshiarpur and Gujrat into subsidiary jails; the concentration of adolescents in the Lahore district jail, with its improved system on modern lines of reformation of character; and, thirdly, the reorganization of establishments with improved pay and prospects, which has had an instant and most gratifying effect in removing the discontent which was widespread, and in inducing a good stamp of recruit to come forward for service. **Prisons.**

The accounts of the expenditure during the year are satisfactory and bear evidence of the care bestowed in this direction. The net cost of maintaining prisoners has fallen from Rs. 66 to Rs. 58 per head or less than Rs. 5 per mensem. Five-eighths of the reduction is due to the lower prices of food-grains.

14. The number of original regular cases instituted fell from 210,894 in the previous year to 190,237, or much the same figure as in 1908. It is gratifying that the number of such cases disposed of exceeded the fresh institutions by over 12,000. The all-round outturn of work, including regular and miscellaneous original cases and appeals, increased from 568 cases per officer in 1909 to 602 in the year now under report. **Civil Justice.**

The report of the Hon'ble Judges on the working of the Insolvency, Guardian and Wards Acts is not very encouraging. It is premature to criticise the former measure, but it would appear that in this province at any rate a declaration of insolvency is mainly sought as the readiest means of escaping from a creditor. No social stigma attaches to the filing of a petition or the obtaining of a declaration, and a careful watching of the working of the Act seems to be necessary. As regards the Guardian and Wards Act, it is clear that there is much difficulty in checking the accounts periodically submitted, and any measures whereby local inspections of estates could be carried out by Munsifs and Subordinate Judges would be welcome. Complaints as to the working of the subordinate establishment—the bailiff and the process-server—are made by several officers. It is perhaps chimerical to hope for much improvement. Still it is something that out of 153,134 applications for executions disposed of 65,292 were successful in whole or in part, and out of a total value of decrees in execution of Rs. 1,68,46,460, Rs. 45,29,609 were actually realized.

15. The most noticeable feature of this year's report, which is a triennial one referring to the years 1908—10, is the evidence it gives of the general tendency for land, both rural and urban, to rise in value. In the triennium ending 1907, 73,402 instruments of sale of the value of over Rs. 100 were registered, and the gross value was Rs. 5,89,71,758. The corresponding figures for the past three years are 79,374 and Rs. 7,94,54,170. For the first time separate figures have been given for agricultural and town lands, and it is interesting to find that nearly half of the registered sales and over a quarter of the mortgages fall under the second head. **Registration.**

The increasing confidence in mutation procedure would appear to continue. In the case of optional registrations relating to lands of value less than Rs. 100, the three years under report show a fall of 31 per cent. as

compared with the returns for the previous triennium. In 11 years the number of optional registrations of deeds relating to immoveable property has fallen from 43,871 to 4,909.

Local Self-Government.

District boards.

16. The history of the Punjab district boards during the year 1910-11 was uneventful, perhaps even more so than usual. Elections fail to rouse any great interest and are more often than not uncontested. It is in contemplation, however, to allow the district boards to elect members for the Punjab Legislative Council, and, if this is possible, it may give the necessary stimulus to induce leading men to serve actively on these bodies. The number of meetings shows an improvement, and the attendance of members is fair.

The removal of two members from the Multan board for non-attendance at meetings is a salutary measure which might be imitated elsewhere. The working of the boards is generally described as satisfactory. Resolutions were over-ruled in two petty cases only. There are still remarkable differences in the opinions held by District Officers as to the usefulness of the boards. Reports from Hoshiarpur, Delhi and Gurdaspur testify to the interest taken by the members in the execution of local projects concerning their own neighbourhood and in discussions of schemes affecting the agricultural interest, while the Deputy Commissioners of Jhelum and Attock remark upon the difficulties of giving the members any responsibility. These conflicting reports from neighbouring districts only confirm the view that ordinarily the successful delegation of powers and functions to non-officials depends for its success almost entirely on the personality of the District Officers and the interest which they take in fostering a spirit of local self-reliance and helpfulness. The formation of sub-committees is extending. Every district has now a Finance Sub-Committee. Agricultural Sub-Committees are also reported to be doing good work, and in some districts general sub-committees formed for tahsils are relieving the boards of some of their functions. This devolution of district board work is the most promising feature in many of the district reports.

The gross income of the boards for the year was Rs. 51,87,000 and their total expenditure Rs. 49,35,000. The incidence of taxation per head of population rose slightly from Re. 0-2-5 to Re. 0-2-6. The payment of Government grants at the beginning, instead of at the end of the financial year, has now been sanctioned, and should relieve the boards from the necessity of overdrawal.

Municipalities.

17. The reports from all the divisions, except the Delhi division, show that little interest is taken in municipal elections. The opinion is, however, expressed by one District Officer that the fact that there are not many actual contests does not show want of interest or absence of emulation. The contest, the Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala believes, goes on privately until the candidate, who has no chance of success, retires rather than face the poll. It is still the fact that in the Northern Punjab at any rate it is a greater honour to be nominated than to be elected. In the southern part of the province things are rather different. In Jagraon the contest was so keen as to lead to a riot. Great keenness was displayed at Delhi, Ambala, Jagadhri and Sadhaura. In Palwal 92 per cent. of the voting strength came to the poll. Sectional representation has now been extended to Wazirabad, though not

without protest from the rest of the community. This form of representation, where it exists, may be regarded as still on its trial. The committees in the large towns met regularly and frequently. Among the minor municipalities very few held less than the prescribed number of meetings. The attendance at meetings was generally good though in Ferozepore seven meetings and in Chiniot three were adjourned for lack of a quorum.

The working of the committees has been generally satisfactory. Sub-committees are extending their sphere of activity and usefulness, relieving the general committee of much routine work, supervising various branches of executive work and preparing business for the general committee. The proceedings of committees were rarely over-ruled, though the intervention and counsel of the Deputy Commissioner is often required to moderate personalities. Party-feeling runs very high in one or two municipalities—Bhera, Kalanaur, Nakodar, and even in Lahore.

The possibility of abolishing octroi has again been under the consideration of Government, but the practical objections to its abolition in favour of direct taxation are at present very strong, though it may be feasible in some municipalities to replace it by a terminal tax. In notified areas house or profession taxes are generally imposed in lieu of octroi, but are not popular. In this country the size and quality of the houses do not vary with the means of their occupants, and rent is often regulated more by custom than competition; while an objection to profession taxes is that the successful and unsuccessful traders are taxed at the same rate. In short, the problem of financing expenditure in small towns is yet to be solved. The working of octroi has been easy and uneventful, but the percentage of establishment charges to gross income varies largely and unaccountably. In Gurdaspur it is 34 per cent. and in Ludhiana only 5 per cent. The general health of municipal towns has been good throughout the year. The experiment of providing whole-time Health Officers in Lahore, Amritsar and Simla is proving successful. Large drainage schemes are beyond the capacity of the smaller towns, but are being pushed in Delhi, Lahore and Amritsar.

Agriculture, Weather and Crops.

Agricultural Department.

18. The year has not been marked by any new departure, either in the organization of the Agricultural Department or the scope of its activities. The new agricultural station at Gurdaspur, which was opened last year, has taken almost all the Deputy Director's time and attention, and valuable results should be obtained there in due course. The pay and prospects of the agricultural staff have been improved and the cadres increased in various directions.

The Punjab Agricultural College is now in the third year of its existence. There are 30 students in their first year, and 35 are pursuing the second or third year's course. The report of the Principal shows that the senior students are making great progress, both in technical and scientific attainments. The readiness of the students to work with their own hands on the farm is very satisfactory, and indicates a real desire to acquire a practical working knowledge of scientific agriculture.

The classification of wheat is still going on, and it will be some years before the many different wheats of the Punjab are correctly classified. The reduction of the American cottons to six, which are being tried on larger areas, before being recommended to cultivators, is a definite advance. The experiments with nitrate of lime are interesting and important. If large electrical works are started in the Punjab it should be possible to manufacture this valuable fertiliser at a cost which will bring it well within the means of the peasant farmers. Well-boring experiments are giving useful results in some parts of the province.

Veterinary Department.

19. It is clear that the progress of the Veterinary College has been seriously hampered by lack of space and will be retarded until the college is removed to a suitable site where sufficient accommodation can be provided. Equally important is the augmentation of the teaching staff, and proposals in this behalf are under consideration. Even allowing for the disabilities under which the college at present labours, it is disappointing to read in the examiners' report that the students generally are lacking in practical knowledge, which is after all the first essential for a veterinary practitioner. The percentage of passes in the final class is 69 as against 64 in 1910. In view of the criticism of the examiners, it is to be hoped that the standard of practical knowledge, required for a pass, will be strictly maintained.

There is a steady increase in the number of veterinary dispensaries, which now number 102. The increasing confidence of the people in these institutions is shown by the average daily attendance, which has risen since last year from 12·95 to 16, and the daily average of fresh cases, which has risen from 5·8 to 7·5. The increase in the number of cases treated at dispensaries, and the corresponding decrease in the number of cases treated on tour, is not in favour of the peripatetic operator, and it appears that once a veterinary dispensary is established in each tahsil the touring of veterinary assistants might with advantage be curtailed.

Loans to Agriculturists.

20. Advances under the Loans Acts amounted to Rs. 3,31,000, and were naturally small in a year of prosperity. It is hoped that in course of time co-operative credit will largely take the place of direct aid from Government.

The present state of the loan account throughout the province is an appropriate opportunity for the introduction of the greatly simplified system of accounts contained in the new Loans Circular which issued in September last. If revenue accountants are adequately instructed in the use of the new system when the work is comparatively light, much confusion will be avoided in times of scarcity and heavy advances.

Co-operative credit societies.

21. It is now five years since co-operative credit became prominent in the Punjab. In that period the number of societies has risen to over one thousand with an average membership of 59 and a working capital of 28½ lakhs of rupees. In fact the co-operative movement has reached a stage at which the initial difficulties have been overcome, problems of organisation have been solved and the movement launched on a course which bids fair to revolutionise the agricultural economy of the Punjab.

Though the extension of the co-operative movement to fresh districts is gratifying, there is no doubt that consolidation rather than extension is the object to be kept in view, for some years to come. At the same time it must be recognised that it is impossible to refuse requests from fresh centres for

assistance in forming banks; and the example of Sialkot, where 14 moribund societies have given place in a single year to 58 flourishing banks, shows that there are still worlds to be conquered.

The working of the rural societies has been smooth and uneventful. Indeed it is most remarkable that in a province so prone to litigation as the Punjab one district only should have invoked the aid of the law courts. The large increase in deposits by non-members is perhaps the most notable feature in the year's working. These have increased from Rs. 1,61,000 to Rs. 4,19,000, that is to say, by 260 per cent., and a considerable amount has been deposited by money-lenders.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that several banks are financing their own inspectors and sub-inspectors. The exact position and status of these private employés is a question of some difficulty, but it is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when the glamour of Government service will not be indispensable to the position of an inspector of banks.

The formation of four co-operative societies for weavers and one general industrial co-operative society is a most encouraging feature, and it is hoped that this phase of the movement will with a little careful attention develope rapidly.

Prices.

22. Except in the case of cotton, wheat and rape-seed, harvest prices were considerably lower than in 1910. Cotton attained to a record price; wheat was only slightly cheaper than in the previous year: the somewhat poor rape crops and European demand resulted in a marked rise in prices.

Weather and Crops.

23. The monsoon of 1910 was at first intermittent, and was not fully established until August. There was at no time, however, any serious deficiency, and the results were generally favourable. The final August rains in the north and west of the province were in most places sufficiently heavy to make up for the dryness of September. There was an abnormal fall of rain in October in the Delhi division, which did some damage to the cotton and millets, but led to large rabi sowings. The winter rains were abundant in January and the season progressed very favourably till March, which was excessively wet and cloudy, and affected the wheat crops adversely. The sugarcane was damaged by frost. The area sown, though rather over a million acres below the normal for the autumn crop, was nearly 2½ millions above it for the spring crop. Thus the year was a prosperous one, but inferior to its predecessor, and in popular opinion more markedly inferior than the statistics show.

FORESTS.

General.

24. There has been practically no change in the area administered by the Forest Department in the Punjab during the year 1910-11. The small area disforested will be required for colonisation. It would be well, however, if a clearer definition of forest areas could be adopted so that the distinction between waste land, barren of high trees, and "forests" in the European sense should no longer be obscured. Such a classification would be of great assistance to Government when forming an estimate of the comparative importance of forest divisions and would give a clearer conspectus of the tree-bearing areas of the Punjab.

The adoption of the group system of regeneration involves a general revision of working plans in the hill divisions. It is to be hoped that it will be found possible to carry out this revision with the existing staff.

The amount of timber removed by departmental agency is steadily decreasing, and forest officers should now have sufficient time for their proper work. If the timber leases are given with due precaution to firms of standing, it should be possible to leave them to exploit the forests with a minimum of official interference.

The conflict between the pastoral demands of the people and the scientific conservation of the forests grows yearly more acute. The breeding of sheep, goats and cattle is becoming more and more a profitable and popular industry, while Government is devoting money to the improvement of cattle and sheep. The question of providing adequate grazing must be faced, and is the most pressing question for the Conservator to consider. In Kangra and Kulu, where perhaps the grazing industry is most prosperous, and the grazing question is most urgent, the Financial Commissioner and the Conservator are taking concerted action towards its solution.

ARBORICULTURE.

Arboriculture.

25. The total extensions effected during the period 1908-09 to 1910-11 by planting in avenues, groves and plantations under the management of the District Boards, the Irrigation Department, and the Provincial Divisions of the Public Works Department were as follows:—Avenues, 1,775 miles; groves, 43 acres; plantations, 2,280 acres. Except in the case of groves—a small item—the amount of work done does not compare well with that done in the previous triennium when the figures were 2,737, 34 and 3,130 respectively. Seeing that establishment charges have increased by Rs. 1,06,255 during the three years, better results should have been obtained. It should, however, be noted that charges on maintenance of existing avenues have increased by Rs. 1,98,197, and this branch of the work, which does not show up in the statistics, appears to have received due attention. An attempt has been made to give a valuation of the standing timber in the triennial report, but difficulty was experienced in many districts in arriving at a satisfactory method of making the valuations, and the returns are not complete. Programmes of arboricultural operations have been drawn up for nearly all districts, and generally speaking they have been carried out as far as practicable.

The revenue from all sources was Rs. 12,43,193 and the total expenditure Rs. 20,45,610. The deficit was borne in almost equal shares by the District Boards and the Irrigation Department.

MANUFACTURES.

26. The total number of factories in the Punjab rose by 3 to 262. Cotton-ginning factories continue to multiply; there are 191 of them, an increase of 15 on the previous year.

Most of the factories of this description worked short time owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the cotton crops. The scheme for a cotton seed oil refinery mentioned in last year's report is still under consideration.

The sanitary conditions are generally reported as satisfactory save in the case of latrines. These are generally dirty and neglected. The health of the operatives is, however, generally stated to be good. More attention might well be paid to an adequate supply of drinking water. Wages continue to rise, the increase being much more marked in the case of unskilled than skilled labour.

TRADE.

Internal Trade.

27. The year 1910-11 was, from the farmer's point of view, almost completely successful. Prices were, however, generally lower than in the preceding year. Raw cotton was an exception, the price being (for cleaned cotton) some Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 a maund higher owing to the shortage in the American and Egyptian crops.

Exports amounted to 50,299,736 maunds, representing a money value of Rs. 25,43,82,426, and imports to 42,340,721 maunds, worth Rs. 26,62,99,310.

The imports are the largest on record. The exports are recovering; but in weight they do not approach the figures of the two great years 1906—08, when the exports of wheat were so unusually large. The fall in prices is reflected in the smallness of the rise in the value of exports as compared with their rise in weight. Excluding gold coin, the principal items of increase under imports were piece-goods, Foreign (+ 33 lakhs of rupees) and Indian (+ 37 lakhs), and "Other iron manufactures including hardware and cutlery" (+ 29 lakhs), and refined sugar (+ 37 lakhs). All these increases may be ascribed to the prosperity of the people of the province.

The import of gold coin went up by 204 lakhs of rupees, while the imports of silver coin and bullion dropped by 124 lakhs of rupees. There were 280 lakhs of rupees in gold coin, 142 lakhs of rupees in silver bullion and 4 lakhs of rupees in silver coin more in the Punjab at the close of the year than there were at the beginning.

The exports of wheat are greater in weight than last year by 23 lakhs of maunds, but less in value by 126½ lakhs of rupees. From April till July 1910 exports were small, and both cultivators and dealers were holding up their stocks in anticipation of a rise in prices. The price then rose and exports became brisk and remained so for the rest of the year.

Trans-Frontier Trade.

28. Imports from Southern and Western Afghanistan show a substantial increase of over Rs. 70,000 in value. This is nearly all in fruits, vegetables and ghi, and may be attributed to high prices in the Punjab and Baluchistan. Exports show an increase of Rs. 25,000. This is visible mainly on European piece-goods, rice, sugar and manufactured leather articles, and seems to point to a higher standard of living among the tribesmen. Imports from Ladakh, though they decreased in weight, shew an increase in value of Rs. 32,000. Exports have risen by half a lakh. Indian tea has increased by over Rs. 11,000, owing, it is said, to a rise in prices in Tibet. While imports into Chinese Tibet show little variation, exports are better by Rs. 48,000. More than half of the increase is in silver. It would be more satisfactory if tea took its place.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

29. With a net increase of 13 the number of companies has risen to 149. The total nominal capital is 580 lakhs, and the total paid up capital 185 lakhs. The number of new benefit societies of the kind hitherto most

plentiful in Madras, a monthly contribution to which secures a lump payment at marriage or death, and the stability of which is more than questionable, is probably an anticipation of expected legislation, and shows the urgency of safeguarding the interests of those who insure in such companies.

Public Works.

30. The total outlay for the year amounted to 48½ lakhs of rupees, 40½ lakhs of which were spent on Provincial Civil Works. Of the latter sum Rs. 13,34,000 were expended on Civil buildings, Rs. 14,56,000 on Communications and Rs. 3,50,000 on Miscellaneous improvements. The administrative changes during the year included the abolition of the Ferozepore division, the 3rd sub-division of the Lahore division, and the Gurdaspur sub-division, the work being distributed among other charges. Rasul, at the head-works of the Jhelum Canal, has been selected as the site for the new Engineering College, which is intended eventually to accommodate one hundred students. The location of a college, otherwise than at a large centre of population, is an experiment in the Punjab, though a precedent is being set in Bengal, and the Roorkee College is a success.

Railways.

31. Another marked rise in the receipts of the North-Western Railway brought up its total net earnings to 251 lakhs of rupees. This was mainly due to heavy export traffic consequent on good harvests. Several important works were completed during the year, including the new carriage and wagon shops at Lahore and two new bridges over the Beas and Sutlej. The length of open line in 1910 amounted to 4,772 miles.

Irrigation.

32. The area irrigated by the Punjab Canals—Imperial, Provincial and Native States—was 7,227,042 acres, or 135,303 acres above the average of the previous three years.

The vast extent of the operations of the Irrigation Department in this province may be estimated from the fact that, including expenditure on works under construction, the total capital outlay on works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept amounted at the end of 1910-11 to over 11 millions sterling, and the net profit obtained, after paying working expenses and interest, came to £697,661. The net profit on the working of the Lower Chenab Canal reached the phenomenal figure of 28·66 per cent. excluding interest charges, or 25·39 per cent. including such charges. The Great Triple Project, comprising the Upper Chenab, Upper Jhelum and Lower Bari Doab Canals, is now well on its way to completion; the outlay on this scheme during the year amounted to Rs. 1,18,80,123, bringing the total expenditure to date up to Rs. 5,06,51,020.

Revenue and expenditure.

33. The revenue raised in the province amounted to Rs. 7,31,55,000, or Rs. 4,96,000 less than in 1909-10. Detailed figures are given in section 36. The collections under the head *Land Revenue* decreased by 16·26 lakhs and those under *Irrigation* by 3·75 lakhs. In both cases, however, the receipts were considerably in excess of the figures for 1908-09.

There was a remarkable rise in the receipts from *Excise*, which amounted to nearly 57 lakhs of rupees as against 43¼ lakhs in 1909-10.

The increase is mainly under still-head duty on country spirits (5¾ lakhs) and vend fees for country spirit (5½ lakhs).

Forest receipts were better by 1·85 lakhs and *Income Tax* collections by slightly over a lakh. The other main heads of revenue do not call for remark.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 4,36,01,000, or Rs. 24,07,000 more than in the previous year. The bulk of the increased expenditure was under the head of *Irrigation*, which accounts for Rs. 15,02 lakhs of the excess.

Nearly 3 lakhs more were spent both under *Police* and *Law and Justice* (*Courts*). The only heads under which a decreased expenditure has to be recorded were *Public Works, Revenue,* and *Political.*

Census.

34. A census was taken on the night of the 10th March 1911, the results of which show the population of the Punjab to be 24,187,750; the population of the British districts being 19,974,956, and of the Native States 4,212,794. Since the last census the population of the British districts has decreased by 355,381, or 1·7 per cent., and of the Native States by 211,604, or 4·8 per cent. The decrease on the combined totals is 566,985, or 2·3 per cent.

With the exception of the first two years of the decade, and also of the year 1907-08, agricultural conditions were uniformly favourable. There was a large extension of irrigation in the canal colonies, and both here and in the dry western districts there was a marked increase in the area under cultivation. Prices of food-grains and cotton rose. The decade was thus one of considerable agricultural prosperity. Trade also was good, and railway communications have been greatly improved. On the other hand, except in the dry western districts, the state of the public health was deplorable. Plague was present throughout the decade, and was responsible in all for about two million deaths. Heavy as was the mortality from plague, it was barely half that from fevers. Malaria was terribly prevalent, especially in the irrigated tracts of the eastern and central districts. It was worst in 1908 and in the first three years of the decade. The losses from epidemics accordingly, more than outweighed the gains which might have been expected from the favourable conditions described above. A more detailed account of the census will be given in the report for next year.

Vital Statistics.

35. Throughout the year climatic conditions were favourable, and the prices of food stuffs ruled slightly cheaper than in 1909. In spite of the late and heavy rainfall in the east, malaria was not severe in any part of the province.

During the year 1910 the birth-rate, which had fallen in 1909 to 35·1, rose once more to 42·7. The excess of male over female births continues. The highest birth-rate was in Lyallpur (79·9), while the low birth-rates in Ludhiana, Ambala, Gurgaon and Rohtak suggest that early recovery of their numbers is not to be looked for in these districts, the population of which exhibits a marked decline since the last census. The death-rate was 33·3, leaving a net gain of 9·4 per mille. In short, the year was unusually

healthy, marred only by a recrudescence of plague. A quarter of the total deaths in the province were of children below the age of one year. Any permanent reduction in the average death-rate of the Punjab must depend mainly on increased care of infant life.

Medical Relief.

36. The report for this year deals with the triennium ending December 31st, 1910. The period was marked by no unusual features and was on the whole prosperous. In the matter of public health the malaria epidemic of 1908 is the principal calamity to record. Plague, though still an unsolved problem, did not cause in any of these three years the appalling mortality recorded in 1907.

From the point of view of the Medical Department the period above-mentioned has been one of internal consolidation rather than of visible expansion. The number of dispensaries in the province shows an increase from 425 to 464. Of these 148 are departmental dispensaries. Dispensaries maintained by local funds have risen from 250 to 263.

The number of in-patients treated rose in 1908 and 1909, but fell slightly in 1910, when it stood at 75,202. The large proportion of the total admissions recorded at one town alone—namely Moga—illustrates the extent to which the usefulness of our dispensaries depends on the personality of the doctor.

The total number of out-patients was 13,166,224 as against 10,624,221 in the previous triennium. The decrease from 1908 to 1909 and again from 1909 to 1910 appears to be due to the comparative healthiness of the years in question.

Perhaps the most gratifying feature of the report is the notable increase in the number of operations performed, from an average of 187,682 in the period 1905—07 to 216,587. As usual, cataract and stone are the two principal operations performed.

The income of hospitals and dispensaries remains much about the same. Subscriptions from Indians have, however, risen from Rs. 24,195 in 1908 to Rs. 38,574 in 1910. This is a gratifying indication that well-to-do persons are beginning to realise their responsibilities towards the public.

Shortly after the death of King Edward VII a memorial scheme was propounded and, in response to the Lieutenant-Governor's appeals, it was resolved at a representative gathering held in Lahore on 30th July 1910 that, as a Punjab Memorial to his late Majesty, a new and enlarged Medical College should be built, and the attached hospitals—the Mayo, the Albert Victor and the Lady Aitchison—should be expanded and improved so as to form a great central institution for medical relief and instruction; and a Provincial Committee was appointed to carry out the scheme with the Hon'ble Sir Arthur H. S. Reid, Kt., Chief Judge, Punjab, as President. The Executive Committee and Sub-Committees, appointed by the Provincial Committee, proceeded to work out the details, and a rough scheme was submitted to Government by the end of the year under report.

The aggregate expenditure on sites, buildings and equipment is expected to exceed 25 lakhs. By the 31st March 1911 contributions amounting to Rs. 13,88,354-6-0 had been promised, out of which Rs. 8,03,340-0-11

had been collected; while the Government of India gave a donation of 10 lakhs to the Memorial.

Sanitation.

37. The Sanitary Board has again been useful as a consultative body and has made grants-in-aid of various sanitary projects. But these fall far short of the annual sum placed at its disposal. This is not the fault of the Board, and it is understood that measures have been taken to obtain from the districts programmes of works which might be undertaken in the next four or five years. Among the more important allotments made during the year were Rs. 21,000 for the acquisition of swamps at Amritsar, and Rs. 10,000 for a combined municipal and cantonment water-supply at Dharmsala.

Sanction was accorded by the Public Works Department to some half dozen schemes, costing in the aggregate Rs. 2,58,775, which had previously received the approval of the Board. The most important of these was the Amritsar sewage disposal works, costing Rs. 1,08,828.

The increasing public interest in sanitary affairs is encouraging, while the progress made towards a complete system of pipe water-supply for the big towns of the Punjab cannot fail to have its effect on the public health.

Education.

38. Judged by the figures for school attendance the year was one of considerable progress, the total increase being 12,901 pupils in public institutions and 4,573 pupils in private schools. The proportional increase was greatest in high schools, where the number of pupils increased by nearly 10 per cent., and in Arts Colleges, where the increase exceeded 10 per cent. There was an addition of 6,024 pupils to the attendance rolls of Primary Schools. The increased attendance in High Schools and Arts Colleges has been accompanied by larger fee receipts, the total income from fees having exceeded that of the previous year by no less than Rs. 1,88,707. The present scale of fees does not appear to have operated in any degree as a deterrent.

Educational expenditure rose from Rs. 58,43,382 to Rs. 60,57,056. A number of district boards, however, appear to have made substantial reductions in their expenditure on education. In the western districts of Shahpur, Gujrat, Attock, Mianwali and Muzaffargarh, where *primâ facie* education has a good deal of ground to make up, reduction in expenditure is to be deprecated, especially if it affects Primary Schools. The scheme of systematically proportioning the Government grants to local expenditure has been sanctioned since the close of the year, a substantial addition being made to the total provincial expenditure on such grants-in-aid in order to facilitate the working of the scheme.

The number of pupils in recognized Gurmukhi schools and classes has risen from 1,756 to 2,038, but this latter total represents less than one in every hundred of the pupils in public institutions.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1. Physical Features of the Country, Area and Climate.

(See pages 1—12 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

2. Historical Summary.

(See pages 12—32 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

3. Form of Administration.

(See pages 32—35 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 35—43 of the report for the year 1901-02 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5 Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 44 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 45—53 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

7. Changes in the Administration.

Personnel of the administration.

1. Sir Louis William Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., held the office of Lieutenant-Governor throughout the year.

Administrative changes.

2. The Sharakpur tahsil was transferred with effect from 1st September 1910 from the Lahore to the Gujránwála district, and together with the Kháṅgah Dográn tahsil was constituted into a new sub-division entitled the Sharakpur sub-division, with head-quarters at Shekhupura. The Sámpla tahsil of the Rohtak district was abolished on April 1st, 1910, and its area divided up among the three remaining tahsils of the district. A few additional villages were transferred from Montgomery to Lyallpur, bringing down the boundary of the latter district to the Deg stream.

3. The area of the province according to the latest returns is 97,209 square miles, its population is 19,962,165, and the land revenue collections $301\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees.

8. Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

4. The arrangements for the supervision of the Native States in the Punjab did not undergo any alteration in the year under report. The following

brief notices are inserted concerning special events of importance in the history of States during the year :—

PATIALA.

Area, 5,412 miles ; popnlation, 1,407,659; gross revenue, Rs. 82,00,000; army and police, 5,270 ; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat ; age of Chief, 20.

Administration.

5. The formal investiture of the Maharaja with full powers, which he had already enjoyed since September 1909, took place on November 3rd 1910, His Excellency Lord Minto visiting the State for the purpose. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was also present at the Darbar, and during his stay in the State opened a new wing of the Rajindar Hospital, which cost Rs. 50,000. Shortly after his investiture the Maharja abolished his Executive Committee, and appointed four ministers for Home, Foreign, Household and Military affairs, with the Hon'ble Nawab Zulfikar Ali Khan as Chief Minister.

General.

6. Owing to the expense of the Investiture Darbar and other heavy items of expenditure the budget was exceeded, and there was an excess of expenditure over income.

The project for a small gauge railway from Patiála to Hissar has been dropped, and the Darbar is now considering other proposals for new lines, especially feeders for the Rájpura-Bhatinda line, which paid 9·6 per cent. on the past year's working.

The Mahindar College is in an excellent state of efficiency, and the Maharaja takes great interest in it. A chair of Economics has been created. Attention is also being paid to the extension of female education, and new rural schools, which will be free to all, are being started with a view to promoting primary education.

The seasons were fair, and both crops average. Apart from plague, the public health was good.

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population, 780,641 ; gross revenue, Rs. 33,00,000; army and police, 1,665; race of Chief, Daudputra; age of Chief, 6½.

Administration.

7. The administration remained in the hands of the Council of Regency, which continued to work satisfactorily.

General.

8. The finances of the State are on a sound footing, and there was an excess of income of above 2½ lakhs over expenditure. The latter included some 12 lakhs for the construction of the Khánpur-Chachran line, which was opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 11th February 1911. The line is 22 miles in length, and should prove a notable acquisition to the resources of the State.

A drainage project for Baháwalpur town was sanctioned, after scrutiny by an officer of the Public Works Department, and in part carried out.

The State is still backward in education, but the College is prospering, and there are two good schools in Baháwalpur itself. The Lieutenant-Governor laid the foundation stone of a new High School in February.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 271,728; gross revenue, Rs. 13,00,000; army and police, 1,739; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 32.

General.

9. The rabi crop was very fair and the kharif was good except in a part of the Dádri tahsil. The cotton crop was a failure. The revenue was collected without difficulty.

The public health was fairly good; great efforts were made to combat plague,—by the destruction of rats, the opening up of ill-ventilated houses, and the evacuation of villages.

The financial position of the State is satisfactory, and the reserve rose to 14¼ lakhs.

Punjab Acts 1 of 1910 and 25 of 1867 were adopted in the State, and the possession of proscribed newspapers and other publications was made a cognizable offence.

Seven new co-operative credit societies were started, making 13 in all. These societies are doing useful work.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 248,887; gross revenue, Rs. 17,00,000; army and police, 1,480; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 67.

10. The Raja enjoyed fair health except for a month in the cold weather, when he had a serious attack of fever.

The Tikka Sahib was in England throughout the year.

There have been several changes in the administration, and a council of three has been formed to relieve the Raja of some of the burden of his work.

His Highness has started a company of boy-scouts who drill with great smartness, are given a little education, and are specially taught the desirability of being loyal, sober and truthful. It is hoped that in time they will furnish recruits for the Imperial Service Regiment.

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 268,133; gross revenue, Rs. 25,00,000; army and police, 1,401; race of Chief, Ahluwalia Sikh; age of Chief, 38; tribute, Rs. 1,31,000.

11. Mr. L. French, I.C.S., continued to act as the Raja's Chief Minister. The services of an Inspector of Police were lent to the Darbar to assist in reorganising the Police Force. Administration.

12. The Heir-apparent Tika Paramjit Singh was married in February 1911. Personal.

MANDI.

Area. 1,200 square miles; population, 181,110; gross revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police 691; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 27; tribute Rs. 1,00,000.

13. The political situation improved considerably during the year under report. With a view to a more even distribution of the land revenue and a satisfactory solution of the question of *begar*, an officer of the Indian Civil Service was, at the request of the Raja, lent to the Darbar as Settlement Officer and took up his duties at the close of the year. General.

SIRMUR.

Area, 1,198 square miles; population, 138,520; gross revenue, Rs. 6,00,000; army and police, 628; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 44.

14. The high level of efficiency in the State administration was maintained. The title of Sardar Bahadur was conferred by Government in August 1910 on the Raja's Chief Secretary, Sardar Narain Singh, for his good services. The Lieutenant-Governor visited the State in October 1910. General.

MALER KOTLA.

Area, 167 square miles; population, 71,144; gross revenue, Rs. 8,37,633; army and police, 582; race of Chief, Sherwani Pathan; age of Chief 30.

General. 15. The services of an Extra Assistant Commissioner and Tahsildar were lent to the Darbar to carry out the revenue settlement now in progress.

The Maler Kotla Sappers were usefully employed by the Public Works Department on the Hindustán-Tibet road.

FARIDKOT.

Area, 642 square miles; population, 130,204; gross revenue, Rs. 11,50,000; army and police, 757; race of Chief, Barar Jat; age of Chief, 14½.

Personal. 16. On the 22nd February 1911 the Raja was married to the daughter of Sardar Jiwan Singh, C.S.I., of Shahzádpur in the Ambala district. The Lieutenant-Governor was present at the festivities in honour of the event.

General. 17. A wheat granary has been constructed, and a Zenana Hospital is also being built.

CHAMBA.

Area, 3,216 square miles; population, 135,989; gross revenue, Rs. 3,91,591; army and police, 419; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 42; tribute, Rs. 3,800.

General. 18. Good progress has been made with a number of public works, more especially the Water Works for the capital. The electric hydraulic works are now complete.

Personal. 19. Tika Ram Singh left the Imperial Cadet Corps in August 1910.

SUKET.

Area, 420 square miles; population, 54,928; gross revenue, Rs. 1,53,000; army and police, 101; race of Chief, Chandarbansi Rajput; age of Chief, 26.

General. 20. A considerable area of waste land was brought under cultivation during the year. Roads, Buildings, Education, Forests and Medical Relief have all received the Raja's attention, and the year under report has been one of continued progress.

KALSIA.

Area, 168 square miles; population, 55,909; gross revenue, Rs. 2,10,435; army and police, 163; race of Chief, Jat Sikh; age of Chief, 9.

General. 21. The State continued to be managed by the Council under the control of the Commissioner, Delhi division. A new girls' school was opened by Lady Dane and a hospital by Sir Louis Dane. The services of an Assistant Surgeon have been engaged.

PATAUDI.

Area, 52 square miles; population, 19,543; gross revenue, Rs. 1,14,119; army and police, 64; race of Chief, Afghan; age of Chief, 51.

General. 22. The State continued to be administered by an Extra Assistant Commissioner under the control of the Commissioner. Rupees 50,000 were invested in Government paper. The Nawabzada continues to work as before.

LOHARU.

Area, 222 square miles; population, 18,597; gross revenue, Rs. 81,500; army and police, 59; race of Chief, Mughal; age of Chief, 51.

23. The instalments of the Mamdot loan are being paid regularly. The financial administration is carried on by the eldest son of the Nawab. The Lieutenant-Governor visited the State during the year. General.

DUJANA.

Area, 100 square miles; population, 25,485; gross revenue, Rs. 77,170; army and police, 145; race of Chief, Pathan; age of Chief, 28; tribute, 50 troopers on requirement.

24. The Chief manages the State himself. The Lieutenant-Governor paid the State a short visit on his way to Bhiwáni. General.

BILASPUR.

Area, 448 square miles; population, 92,525; gross revenue, Rs. 1,90,000; army and police, 198; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 38; tribute, Rs. 8,000.

25. The administration is proceeding smoothly. Mian Durga Singh has been retained by the Raja as Wazir for a further period. General.

BASHAHR.

Area, 3,820 square miles; population, 88,957; gross revenue, Rs. 95,000; army and police, 13; race of Chief, Rajput; age of Chief, 73; tribute, Rs. 3,945.

26. The Rohru tahsil was the centre of an attack against the existing administration which threatened at one time to develop into open disturbance. Steps were, however, taken to deal with the ring-leaders and the tahsil has since been comparatively tranquil. Rai Sahib Mangat Ram continued in administrative charge of the State. General.

OTHER HILL STATES.

27. The completion of the settlements in Baghat and Mailog gave rise to a certain amount of agitation, which was, however, in both cases found to be groundless. A settlement was effected with most of the creditors of the Keonthal State, and in the course of 10 years its finances should recover stability. Rana Gyan Chand of Jubbal died in April and was succeeded by his half brother, Baghat Chand, who has been invested with full powers.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

28. The peace of the border was disturbed by two raids committed by trans-border Pathans.

The village of Vihoa, in the Dera Ghazi Khan district, was raided at 9 P.M. on the night of the 17th June 1910 by 20 or 30 Pathans who looted the houses of 6 Hindus and wounded 4 Hindus. The loss was computed to be Rs. 17,649. The Dera Ismail Khan authorities traced the offence to a gang of Mahsuds from whose country they recovered some Rs. 5,000 in cash and jewellery.

Over this case Jamadar Imam Bakhsh of the Border Military Police was made to resign his commission for negligence, and the Khetran Chief was deprived of his magisterial powers.

The village of Daulatwála in the same district was raided at 10 P.M. on the night of the 18th December 1910 by about 25 armed Pathans who looted the houses of the Hindus only. The loss was computed by the latter at over Rs. 3,000, but a sum of only Rs. 720 has been admitted by the Jirga, which found that as the tracks of the raiders had been carried to the Mizra country and the Mizras had failed either to produce the raiders or carry on the tracks, they were responsible for the amount.

A proposal to distribute 100 Martini-Henry rifles and 2,000 rounds of ammunition to villages most exposed to raids has been sanctioned by the Government of India.

There was an increase in the cases of murder, theft, dacoity and robbery as compared with last year. In part this was due to the above-mentioned raids; the figures are, however, considerably below those of 1908-09.

9. Condition of the People.

29. The monsoon of 1910 was in general well distributed and in sufficient strength, and the winter rains were abundant. The year was accordingly a distinctly prosperous one for the cultivator. Prices were lower than in the previous year. The birth rate rose and the health of the people, except for the re-appearance of plague, was unusually good. Further details on the subject will be found in Chapter VI.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Realization of the revenue.— Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year 1st October 1909 to 30th September 1910.

Surveys.—

Surveys (other than land revenue).—General Report on the Operations of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1910.

Settlements.—Annual Report on the Settlement Operations in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1910.

Land Records.—Report on the Operations of the Department of Land Records, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1910.

Waste Lands and Government Estates.—
1. Annual Report for the Chenab, Jhang, Chunián and Jhelum Colonies for the year ending 30th September 1910.
2. Land Revenue Report, *as above.*

Wards' Estates.—Report on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1910.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.—Land Revenue Report, *as above.* The Annual Report on the working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, XIII of 1900, is now incorporated in the Land Revenue Report.]

10. Realization of the Land Revenue.

General conditions in 1909-10.

30. The monsoon was an early one, general rainfall being reported by the 3rd week of June : well distributed rain was obtained until the middle of September, this being a normal date for the cessation of the monsoon fall. Throughout the province with a few local exceptions the monsoon was one of the best of recent years. Taking area and yield together the kharif crop was estimated as 21 per cent. above the quinquennial average. The winter rainfall was considerably in defect throughout most of the province, but the later monsoon fall made less rain necessary, and except in the tracts which were deprived of the later monsoon, the conditions were very favourable. The yields were in general excellent and the crop was a bumper one, 14 per cent. above normal.

The total matured area of the year was 25,724,729 acres, which is 16 per cent. above the average of the last five years. Outturns were distinctly satisfactory, except in the case of *jowar* and maize which suffered from the abundant rainfall. The all important wheat crop is returned with a yield 19 per cent. above normal, *toria* did excellently, and the yield of gram for the province is given as 99 per cent. above normal.

Fixed land revenue.

31. The fixed land revenue roll of the province is now Rs. 2,08,66,993 ; an increase of Rs. 3,20,070 over the previous year's figure, mainly to be accounted for by re-assessments in the Delhi division. Ninety-nine per cent. of the demand has been recovered. Drought in the sandy tracts of Jhelum and Shahpur and floods in Siálkot necessitated some suspensions, amounting in all to Rs. 73,000. Of the 38½ lakhs of arrears outstanding at the close of the previous year 23 lakhs were collected—18 lakhs in the Delhi division alone—7¾ lakhs were remitted, and 7¾ lakhs remained under suspension. The remissions were mainly given in the districts of Gurgaon, Rohtak, Karnál and Delhi, when the introduction of the new demand necessitated a review of the situation.

New alluvion and diluvion rules were introduced during the year in Gurgaon and are reported to have worked satisfactorily.

Fluctuating land revenue.

32. Small additional areas have been placed under permanent fluctuating assessments in Gurgaon, Delhi, Gujránwála and Shahpur, but on the other hand in Karnál and Rohtak the previous fluctuating asessments have been abolished on resettlement because of the unpopularity of the system.

The current year's demand for permanent fluctuating land revenue is Rs. 54 lakhs or rupees one lakh in excess of the previous year's figures. The total amount outstanding at the close of the year was Rs. 23,000.

Miscellaneous land revenue.

33. The demand on account of other land revenue amounted to Rs. 19,36,221, of which Rs. 18,90,872 were collected. Rupees 9,60,000 were derived from the sale of Government estates in the Chenab and Sidhnai colonies and of Crown lands in the Delhi and Muzaffargarh districts. Rupees 2,39,000 were obtained from nazrana and sale of waste land, almost entirely in the Jhelum and Chunián colonies.

Miscellaneous.

34. The revenue work of district officers has been greatly simplified by the abolition of the old Land Revenue and Tenancy Act Rules and the Revenue Circulars. With the new Standing Orders and the three volumes of Land Acts and Manuals the revenue officer now has an adequate digest of authority. Fair progress is reported in the provision of better accommodation for the storage of records, and the work of destruction of obsolete records is up to date in all but a few districts. It is hoped that the issue of new rules for the copying department and the copying agency will not be further postponed.

The area of land acquired for public purposes was 8,763 acres. Of this 3,911 acres were required for railway construction and extension. For the new works on the Upper Chenab and Jhelum Canals and for extensions of existing canals 2,481 acres were taken up. Recent land acquisition proceedings in Lahore should furnish material for a discussion of land values in that city which would serve as a guide for officers acquiring land in urban areas elsewhere. Experiments and investigation on the subject of well-boring have shown that the artesian principle is understood in the sub-montane tracts, though it is doubtful whether there is great scope for Government enterprise in this direction.

11. Survey

Topographical work.

35. The departmental topographical survey parties working in the Punjab were Nos. 12, 14, and 18. No. 12 party was at work in the canal-irrigated area of Jhang, Lyallpur and Shahpur; No. 14 in Ráwalpindi, Jhelum, Gujrát and Shahpur; and No. 18, which has now been transferred to the United Provinces, in Attock, Miánwáli and Shahpur. Except in the broken and intricate area of the Salt Range, where a 2″ survey was carried out, the survey was on the 1″ scale.

Traverse survey.

36. The riverain detachment combined its work of traversing and laying down base lines along the Sutlej, Beas and Ravi. With the help of the marks set up by this party it will in future be a simple matter to relay a fixed riverain boundary. The cadastral survey of riverain villages is, moreover, now based on traverse points laid down by scientific agency. The laying down of 25 acre rectangles on the area to be irrigated by the Lower Bari Doab Canal, where base rectangles were laid some years ago by the Survey Department, has been recently begun.

Boundary demarcation.

37. The principal changes in boundaries effected during the year have been the transfer of Sharakpur tahsil from the Lahore to the Gujránwála district and the re-arrangement of the Rohtak, Gohána, and Jhajjar tahsils of Rohtak in consequence of the abolition of the Sámpla tahsil. A few additional villages have been transferred from Montgomery to Lyallpur, bringing down the boundary of the latter district to the Deg stream. The Deputy Commissioner of Miánwáli reports that the boundary case between his district and Dera Ismail Khan has been settled, but that the boundary with Kohát is still under dispute. Mr. Douie met the Hon'ble Mr. Baillie in March and discussed the proposed fixed boundary on the Jumna between the Punjab and the United Provinces. A draft Bill was prepared and forwarded to the United Provinces Government, but the scheme has since been rejected.

12. Settlement.

38. During the year settlement operations were finished in Karnál, Rohtak and Delhi. In the two latter the financial gain exceeded the forecast by two lakhs, while the saving on the original estimate of expenditure was $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. In Karnál the increase taken was three lakhs and the expenditure was Rs. 8,26,000 or Rs. 36,000 more than was at first anticipated. Mr. Stow's task in that large, and from a revenue point of view difficult, district was an arduous one. Operations were also in progress in the Hissar, Gurdáspur, Ludhiána, Gujránwála and Kángra districts.

The progress of re-measurement and re-assessment has been satisfactory. Orders were passed during the year on the assessment reports of north Delhi (Sonepat and part of the Delhi tahsil), Hissar, Hánsi and Batála and on those of Mauza Delhi (the land within municipal limits), Gurdáspur and Samrála. Rules were drawn up for fluctuating assessments for the tracts in the Delhi division where such assessments are in force, and will probably be found suitable for any other tract in the division into which the fluctuating system is introduced.

Further progress was made with the scheme for the amalgamation of settlement and district staffs, but in view of the difficulties surrounding the case of the kanungo establishments it will probably be wise to postpone this change till some experience has been gained of its working in the case of Naib Tahsildars, but it is to be hoped that the matter will not be forgotten, as everything that can be done to show that settlement work is not a separate and special procedure tends to simplicity of working and economy.

13. Land Records.

Patwaris.

39. The patwari staff now amounts to about 8,800 persons, and the average cost for salaries is Rs. 11, or if assistants are excluded, Rs. 12 per mensem. In the Rohtak district alone the pay of the 1st-grade patwaris has been raised from Rs. 14 to Rs. 15, and a reduced number of assistant patwaris has been given Rs. 8 instead of Rs. 5. Seeing, however, that a lakh of rupees is required to add one rupee to the monthly pay of each patwari, only modest measures are possible, though when patwaris are found, as at present, to decline promotion, as kanungos, it is not altogether certain that the present scale is inadequate. The total expenditure on patwaris was Rs. 12,83,519 or nearly half a lakh less than last year.

Kanungos.

40. Only 35 new kanungo candidates were accepted during the year. The decrease is in part due to the efforts made to reduce the superfluity of candidates in some districts, and is also in part a consequence of the block created by the absorption of excess settlement kanungos. There is a good deal of dissatisfaction expressed with the work of the kanungos. They are left very much to their own devices by their immediate superiors, the Tahsildars, and in this country unsupervised work is usually scamped. Their bad work is probably due in part to their poor prospects. Only 6 kanungos out of 599 were promoted to higher posts during the year.

Records.

41. The most important incident of the year was the issue by the Financial Commissioner of more stringent instructions as to the preparation of jamabandis. These instructions form part of the measures to be introduced in order to ensure such accuracy in the quadrennial returns that hesitation need no longer be felt in doing away with the re-writing of records and the correction of the village map now regarded as an essential part of the operations periodically undertaken for the revision of assessment.

Although the number of attested mutations has declined, it still stands at the large figure of 793,533. The average total per district in the United Provinces is 5,000, whereas in the Punjab it is 27,000. These figures of course reflect the wide difference between the land tenures of the two provinces.

It is disappointing that the extra Naib Tahsildars posted for mutation work have not shown a better return. In most cases the average outturn of these officers was 20, 30 or 40 cases a day, which is only about two or three hours' work. The experiment of empowering selected kanungos in this behalf should be persisted in if only on the ground that any mark of distinction from his fellows serves as a stimulus to a man's energies. Care must, however, be taken that the ordinary Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars are not neglecting this part of their duties.

14. Waste Lands and Government Estates.

Chenab colony.

42. Owing mainly to a recalculation of areas in the Jhang district, the area allotted is now given at the reduced figure of 1,840,247 acres, upon which a total area of 1,938,560 acres were sown. This may be compared with 1,881,771 acres sown in the previous year. Of this huge area sown only 29 per cent. was sown in the kharif harvest. Except a scattered square here and there, there is now no land generally available throughout the colony.

On the subject of the mule-breeding conditions upon which land has been allotted *ex officio* to lambardars, none of the Deputy Commissioners are enthusiastic, but the conditions can be enforced easily owing, as the Deputy Commissioner of Jhang points out, to the material advantage conferred by the extra land granted, and the results, as far as the Army Department are concerned, appear to be quite satisfactory.

Owing to the treatment of the subject in the district reports it is difficult to ascertain to what extent proprietary rights have been acquired to date. It appears, however, that over 17,000 acres have been acquired, and that a sum of Rs. 10,38,950 have been paid in during the year: this sum of course includes payment on account where instalments have been allowed. The demand still due is estimated at Rs. 4,14,000 or so. The offer to sell peasant grants at Rs. 12-8-0 per acre was announced after the close of the year. Reassessment operations have also been concluded over a large part of the colony area, which is rapidly falling into line with normal administration.

The high prices obtained at the sale of sites at Tandliánwála are only a confirmation of the prices given at Jaranwála in the previous year. Caution is no doubt necessary in inaugurating new markets in the neighbourhood of existing trade centres, but the continued realisation of prices as high as Rs. 45,000 per acre in successive years would indicate that the amounts given are warranted by the briskness of trade.

Jhelum colony.

43. The general improvement of inferior soil in this colony under temporary cultivation has enabled permanent allotment to be made of considerable areas which were formerly refused by grantees, and is a matter for gratification.

The continued success of the *abadkar* or small horse-breeding colonist is striking, though the total number of purchases of young stock by Government has slightly declined. Now that definite measures are being taken to weed out the inefficient larger grantees, the Army Remount Department will be able to concentrate their attention on the peasant breeders.

Of a total allotted culturable area of 396,558 acres, 361,711 acres or 91 per cent. were sown. The excess over the limit laid down for this canal is considerable, though far less marked than in the Chenab colony. The percentage of failure in the kharif is still high—20·6 per cent.—in spite of good and timely rains.

The attestation of occupancy rights has been promptly carried out, but there has been some delay in the issue of sanads for horse-breeding grantees. One-and-a-half lakh of rupees were recovered on account of nazrana and about one lakh is reported to be still due to be collected. The collections are generally made with ease.

Chunian colony.

44. Small allotments during the year have brought up the total area allotted to 78,726 acres. The only important area unallotted is the Rakh Buchoki land which has, it is understood, now been given out. One hundred and five per cent. of sown area per acre allotted was obtained in this colony.

The demands on account of capital account have practically been met in full. The total amount outstanding is only Rs. 7,775. The balance at the credit of the Pattoki town improvement fund has now been handed over to the municipal fund.

Other Government waste.

45. A committee to consider the subject of arresting the denudation of the Punjab Hill Tracts met at Ráwalpindi in March 1910. Its proposals for the amendment of the Act and for the constitution of a Land Improvement Committee entrusted with the yearly expenditure of a lakh of rupees were negatived. An attempt at action under section 8 of the Chos Act is to be undertaken on the Maili Cho. The experiment will be watched with interest and may be fraught with important consequences, as the question of the amendment of the law and of further experiments in reclamation must depend largely on the experience gained with this torrent.

15. Wards Estates.

46. The number of estates under management during the year was 51. The total income of all the estates is over 24½ lakhs of rupees.

The tendency to invest the surplus funds of the estates under the Court in real property rather than in Government paper is a matter for satisfaction. The advantages of this form of investment are obvious. It is also satisfactory to notice that the Court is freeing itself gradually from the charge of those petty estates whose management it had undertaken under a somewhat liberal conception of the duties of the Court of Wards.

The development of horse and cattle breeding on the Wards' estates may be heartily commended. The only disquieting feature in the report is the possibility of embezzlement on such a large scale as that which is noticed in the Lahore district. It is satisfactory, however, that the whole system of accounts and management has now been overhauled and reorganised, and it is to be hoped that under the new system the repetition of serious defalcations will be rendered impossible.

16. Revenue and Rent Paying Classes.

Land Alienation Act.

47. The only alteration in district groups of agricultural tribes was the notification of the Gurgaon Tagas. Notifications constituting as separate groups the Gaur Brahmans in the Delhi division, the Una Brahmans in Hoshiárpur, the Ráwalpindi Brahmans, and the Jhelum Muhial Brahmans and Gadhiok Kanungos were published during the year. Similar action has also been taken in the case of the agricultural divisions of the Kángra Brahmans and of the Kakezais in Jhelum.

Continual applications for notification are presented. Action has been refused in many cases, as for example those of the Bedis of Gurdáspur, the Kalals of Ambála, the Sadikis of Karnál, the Datt Brahmans of Gurdáspur, the Gadhioks of Chakwál town and the Babla Bhatias of Multán.

The Deputy Commissioners of Ambála and Gujrát bring to notice a matter which had also come to the Financial Commissioner's notice when on tour in Gujránwála. It appears to be a general custom to enter the holder of an illegal mortgage, in whose name mutation has been refused, as a tenant-at-will. Orders have now issued that his name must not appear in the jamabandi at all unless he himself cultivates the land, in which case he will be entered as a tenant-at-will under the owner of the land.

A good deal of attention has been paid to *benami* transactions in the district reports. In some districts these transactions are not uncommon. The order referred to above should do something to check this abuse. Mutation should always be refused when the transferee shown in the deed is known not to be the real mortgagee. And there should be no hesitation in reviewing the mutation order at any time when the unreal nature of the transaction comes to light. Any wilful winking at fictitious mortgages by revenue subordinates or officers attesting mutations should be severely dealt with.

Agricultural tribes have gained 5,844 acres on sale transactions. On the other hand, the excess area mortgaged *by* over that mortgaged *to* agricultural tribes was 24,829 acres. The net result from sales and mortgages shows a net loss to such tribes of 15,066 acres. The figures are not satisfactorily explained in the reports, and the matter deserves further investigation.

Tenants and rents.

48. The total number of decided suits for the enhancement or reduction of rents of occupancy tenants shews practically no variation from the figures of the previous year. The only special features of the returns are the increase on litigation in Rohtak and Gurgaon due to the settlements recently completed. Decrees for ejectment of occupancy tenants were passed in eight cases only, but proceedings against tenants-at-will have been far more numerous. This is ascribed in part to the continuance of favourable seasons and the increase in prices which enabled landlords to deal more firmly with recalcitrant tenants.

The total number of revenue cases has fallen off from 186,000 to 176,000.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

49. Declarations of a rule of integral descent were notified during the year in the case of four jagirs—two in Ludhiána and two in Gurdáspur. In all cases the declarations were based on written instruments. The approximate value of the jagirs concerned was Rs. 4,450 in Ludhiána and Rs. 5,650 in Gurdáspur. Up to date 128 jagirs, valued at Rs. 7,80,000, have been gazetted under the Act. Further action is being taken by district officers, and several cases are under consideration.

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CHAPTER III.
PROTECTION.

[Detailed information and statistics on the subjects included in this chapter will be found in the following reports :—

Police—(1) Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1910.

(2) Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1910.

Criminal Justice.—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1909.

Prisons.—(1) Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1910.

(2) Annual Report on the Reformatory School, Delhi, for 1910.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1910.

Registration.—Note on the Registration Returns of the Punjab for the year 1910.

Local Boards Administration.—District Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1910-11.

And in statistics of British India, Part VI—Administrative and Judicial, and Part VIII—Local Funds.]

17. Legislating Authority.

(See pages 83 and 84 of the report for the year 1901-02 and remarks below under section 18).

18. Course of Legislation.

50. During the year seven meetings of the Legislative Council were held, six Bills were introduced and two—namely, an Act to amend section 51 of the Punjab Laws Act and an Act to amend the Law of Arbitration in the Punjab—received the final assent of the Governor-General in Council.

The Bills introduced include four measures of first importance, a Municipal Bill, a Bill to amend the Punjab Courts Act and to bring the law of civil appeal in the Punjab more into line with the law prevailing in other provinces, a Colonies Bill to make better provision for the administration of Government lands, and a Bill to establish village punchayats for the decision of petty civil cases.

Only two resolutions were brought forward dealing with education and the establishment of a High Court, but they were withdrawn after a short discussion.

Full advantage was taken by the non-official members of the Council of the power of interpellation, no less than 101 questions being put and answered, and 2 put and withdrawn.

The Hon'ble Mr. Maclagan resigned on appointment to Government of India on 26th July 1911. Mr. Humphreys was appointed in his place. Lieutenant-Colonel Parsons was appointed in place of Colonel Bate, resigned. The Hon'ble Lieutenant-Colonel Davies resigned on appointment to the Imperial Council. Mr. R. A. Mant was appointed on 7th December 1910. There were other temporary changes which need not be recorded. No change took place among the non-official nominated and elected members.

19. Police.

51. The number of cognizable cases dealt with by the police and returned as true rose from 40,482 in 1909 to 41,300 in the year under report. The increase amounted to 838, and in itself is not serious in view of the fact that the total was less than in any of the four preceding years except 1909. Unfortunately the year was marked by a large increase in the more serious classes of offences. Thus minor offences against property showed a decrease of 707, whereas offences against the State, serious offences against the person and

Crime and working.

serious offences against property showed increases of 115, 217 and 723, respectively. The increase in the more serious classes of cases is most marked in the Central Range, and in particular in the prosperous districts of Siálkot, Amritsar, Gujránwála and Lyallpur. The connection of strong drink with serious crime can hardly be doubted, and is a matter for the gravest concern.

The actual number of murders decreased from 421 to 409. Several of these cases were marked by particular brutality. Mutilation, frequently in the form of decapitation, is becoming increasingly common. The number of convictions for murder amounted to 159 or 39 per cent.

An unfortunate feature of the year is the increase in dakaitis, 48 such cases having occurred, as against 36 in 1909. In some of the more important cases trans-border Pathans were concerned. Except in the Western Range, however, the large majority of them were only technical cases, and may be called highway robberies. The increase in the number of cases has been accompanied by an improvement in working, over 39 per cent. of the cases having ended in conviction as compared with 36 per cent. in 1909.

Burglaries showed an increase of 637 cases. This is probably due to the fact that more cases were reported, and not to an actual increase in this particular class of crime, and points to an increasing confidence on the part of the public in the members of the force.

Cattle theft cases rose from 2,274 to 2,305. Harvests well above the average during 1910 and the consequent demand for cattle may have contributed partly to the increase, but the system of boat patrolling on the rivers in the Muzaffargarh and Dera Gházi Khán districts brought to light a large number of cases, and has done much good.

It is gratifying to notice that greater efforts have been made during the past year to realize forfeited securities under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code, the amount actually recovered being Rs. 15,482 as against Rs. 7,801 in 1909. In spite of certain defects in the law vigorous action under section 110 of the Code is still reflected in the criminal statistics, such action taken in the year 1909 in the districts of Dera Gházi Khan, Lahore and Multán having resulted in a decrease in crime in 1910.

A scheme of decentralisation which was introduced in the Lahore district might well be adopted in other districts where sufficient gazetted officers are posted. The Superintendent of Police should thus be able to keep a finger on each part of the complicated machinery placed in his charge.

Railway Police.

52. With the addition of 290 miles of line during the year under report the total mileage of line under the Railway Police amounted to just below 3,900 miles. There was a small increase in thefts from passenger trains and a substantial decrease in thefts from goods trains. The patrolling system on the railway continued to receive full attention and the movements of bad characters and suspicious persons were carefully watched.

Finger Print Bureau and Training School.

53. The work of the Finger Print Bureau shows a steady growth. It is noticeable that Native States are making free use of it. An increase to the staff has recently been sanctioned. The working of the training school continues to be satisfactory. Complaints as to the unhealthiness of the Phillaur Fort have now been removed. For the first time in the history of the school a class has been formed in which the whole course was taken in English, and the results have been excellent.

Rural Police.

(See pages 88 and 89 of the report for 1901-02.)

Criminal Tribes.

54. The decrease in the number of convictions from 606 to 481 was satisfactory. There can be no doubt that the change in economic conditions and the prevalence of a high rate of wages is beginning to react on the criminal tribes of the Province. In fact, it actually pays better to be honest than to thieve. It is to these conditions and to the efforts of the Salvation Army that we must look for eventual reclamation. The Salvation Army School

and Weaving Factory at Kot Mohkal in the Siálkot District has made a good start, and the same may be said of the Salvation Army Industrial School at Chawa in the Ludhiána district, which could be filled many times over by applicants from this and other districts. The necessity of close co-operation with the Salvation Army with a view to persuading members of criminal tribes to take advantage of the opportunities now offered to them of taking to an honest livelihood is clearly indicated. There is naturally some degree of suspicion to be overcome, but this should not be a matter of difficulty, and it is in the interest of the police themselves and of the district administration generally to get as many criminals as possible into the Salvation Army settlements.

Among other schemes for reclamation Government has recently suggested to the Salvation Army and the Conservator of Forests the advisability of creating a colony near the Chánga Mánga forest where the Forest Department find great difficulty in raising the necessary labour to carry out fellings. The neighbourhood is also admirably adapted to silk-worm rearing, and it is hoped that a combination of the two industries will form an attractive market to those among this class of criminals who are ready to avail themselves of it.

20. Criminal Justice.

General statistics.

55. The number of offences reported under the Indian Penal Code during the year rose from 135,038 to 137,744; and the total number of offences reported under all Acts was 7,000 in excess of last year's figures. 83,277 offences under the Indian Penal Code are admitted to have been committed as compared with 81,957 last year. Agricultural conditions were generally prosperous, and in the greater part of the Delhi and Jullundur divisions at any rate the apparent increase in crime is chiefly confined to petty cases. A distinct wave of violent crime seems, however, to have swept over the Lahore district towards the end of the year, and a noticeable recrudescence of cattle thefts took place in Montgomery during the rains. The most serious report is from Ferozepore, where the increase of crime is as alarming as it has been steady. This is attributed by the District Magistrate to the growth of the drink habit.

Agency by which work was disposed of.

56. The distribution of work among the new Sessions Divisions did not prove altogether satisfactory, but it is very difficult to suggest any alternative arrangement which would not inconvenience litigants or break up existing units to an undesirable degree. However that may be, there can be no doubt that Attock, Ráwalpindi, Hissar and Delhi are very light charges, while Lahore, Multán and Shahpur are each almost more than any man can grapple with. It is hoped that the scheme for District and Sessions Judges will quicken the disposal of criminal work, and the arrangements made in the Ferozepore and Lahore districts under which police chalans are taken up at once will certainly conduce to that end, but it must be admitted that much remains to be done.

Punishment.

57. Sentence of death was passed on 137 persons and in 83 cases sentence was confirmed. Thirty persons were acquitted by the Chief Court and in the case of 30 the capital sentence was commuted. The amount of fines inflicted rose from Rs. 4,77,572 to Rs. 4,82,796. Whippings fell from 1,297 to 990 and were only half as numerous in 1908. It is very hard to get Indian Magistrates to impose sentences of whipping, but such sentences are often most useful in these days, when such luxury and comfort are allowed to convicts in jail.

Appeals.

58. As last year, 58 per cent. of the appeals and 72 per cent. of the applications for revision were rejected. In several appellate courts the files of criminal work have been very heavy, and it is to be suspected that more might be done in the direction of rejecting appeals without issuing notices to the other side, and that there is in some courts a tendency to treat revisions in the same way and at the same length as appeals.

21. Prisons.

General.

59. The policy of concentration, which implies greater administrative facility and stricter economic control, has been kept steadily in view, and material progress has been effected. The tentative measures taken in 1909 have led on to the formal closure of the jail at Simla and the conversion of

those at Amritsar, Karnál, Hoshiárpur and Gujrát into subsidiary jails. Departmentally this first advance along a path marked out in the now distant past has been eminently satisfactory; there are eight small, compact subsidiary jails, adequately fulfilling the reception and disposal of prisoners in each of their districts, stript of numerous returns and intricate registers, guided by a simple code; eight centres of reduced work and increased efficiency, and with it all a saving of Rs. 32,818 per annum.

Pari passu with reductions has proceeded the extension of the Lahore District Jail, which is destined to become the Borstal of the Punjab. The 1st of October saw the concentration of all the juvenile adults in this institution, and since then every such prisoner, *i.e.*, between the ages of 16 and 21 years, with over four months' imprisonment, has been transferred to Lahore immediately on conviction, so as to avoid any possibility of contact with the harmful influences of ordinary prison life. This is a most hopeful measure, but at a time when so much is written about the duty of the community to the depressed classes it is to be hoped that private employers and societies will also second the efforts of Government to reclaim young lads who have made a false start in life.

Convict admissions.

60. The number of convicts imprisoned rose from 15,973 to 16,235, an unimportant increase, the total being less than that for 1908, when it was 16,816. The want of proper accommodation for long-term prisoners in the North-West Frontier Province was the cause of the transfer of the majority of the 725 prisoners transferred from other provinces; and this is a point which appears to need some action, as the province receives no contribution towards the up-keep of these prisoners, and it seems just that either the Frontier Province should arrange for its own prisoners or pay for them when they are interned in Punjab jails.

Solitary confinement.

61. Sentences of solitary confinement were awarded by the courts in 6,060 cases; in India this forms the most irksome and dreaded part of the imprisonment; it is loathed by the casual and abhorred by the habitual offender; both endeavour by fair or foul means to avoid it, and the greatest difficulty is experienced in executing the awards in full. Cells everywhere are all too few and have been requisitioned quite too freely in the past for purposes of quarantine and night confinement, leaving only a proportion of the cells for their legitimate purpose. The subject is, however, receiving attention.

Discipline.

62. The number of escapes during the year shows a marked decrease from 17 to 10, and of these 10 only 4 escaped from inside the jail. With a better establishment and improved arrangements it is hoped that the chances of escape will be practically eliminated. Notwithstanding the larger daily average number of prisoners during the year than in the preceding year, the number of prison offences shows a large falling off from 51,833 to 39,044. Seeing that the Inspector-General is convinced that there has been a real improvement in the conduct of the prisoners, this is a most gratifying result, and speaks well for the success of the revised remission system and for the good effect of personal influence.

Expenditure.

63. The total expenditure on guarding and maintenance during the year was Rs. 9,00,738 against Rs. 9,47,312 in 1909 and Rs. 10,05,688 in 1908.

Income.

64. The cash earnings show an increase from Rs. 1,74,369 in 1909 to Rs. 1,85,238 in the year under review—another record. The total income amounted to Rs. 5,63,988. The percentage of convicts sentenced to labour who were employed on remunerative work has again risen and stands at 48, which is most creditable. The success achieved in the work of excavation on the Lower Bari Doab Canal is also most gratifying. It is probable that more extended fields of usefulness for convict labour will open up in this direction in future, owing to the growing difficulty of finding labour at remunerative rates.

Vital statistics.

65. The death-rate rose from 24·84 in the previous year to 27·85, the corresponding figures for the free population being 30·89 and 33·28.

Over two-thirds of the cases of tubercle occurred in the central jails, and this may point to a drawback incident to the policy of concentration otherwise so desirable. The matter is being specially inquired into.

22. Civil Justice.

Institutions.

66. The continued rise in the institutions to which attention was drawn in last year's report has received a check, but the number of suits instituted still exceeds the figures of 1907 and 1908, and amounted to 190,237. This total is some 24,000 cases short of the number of original civil cases instituted before the new Limitation Act was passed. The decrease on last year's figures is attributed by some officers to plague, and by others to the fact of the year having been somewhat prosperous. The Hon'ble Judges regard the recent Limitation Act as responsible for much additional litigation. Claims are repudiated that would not have been under the three years' rule of limitation for money suits, and it is much more difficult to sift a six-year old claim than one three years old.

Disposals.

67. Original suits for disposal fell from 248,672 to 227,368. Disposals fell from 225,265 to 202,792. The average number of regular civil appeals disposed of by Divisional Judges rose to a little over 40 a month, which is satisfactory. The number of civil appeals presented in district courts fell by 600, but there was a large rise in disposals. The congestion in the Chief Court continued to increase, and at the end of the year the pending file amounted to 243 First Appeals, 1,388 Further Appeals and 1,339 Civil Revisions. A 7th temporary Additional Judge has since been appointed.

Value of suits.

68. The average value of suits instituted during the year was Rs. 156, a slight increase on 1909. The total value was Rs. 2,95,95,418 as compared with Rs. 3,04,92,781. In each of the districts of Delhi, Lahore, Rohtak and Jullundur one suit of over a lakh in value was brought.

General.

69. During the year the Chief Court's rule requiring security to be filed before a petition for revision could be entertained was abrogated. The rule had failed to secure its object of deterring frivolous petitioners, but by its abolition a number of cases awaiting the furnishing of security came to swell the list of causes for disposal. Some alternative expedient to prevent litigants from presenting preposterous petitions is required, and may possibly be found in raising the amount of the court fees.

Complaints continue to be made of the overcrowding of the legal profession, but it is difficult to suggest a remedy. A scheme was in fact worked out by the Hon'ble Judges of the Chief Court some two years ago, but it received very little support from the profession, in whose interest the attempt had been made. Apparently there was an idea (which needless to say was completely erroneous) that the proposal was really aimed at getting rid of disloyal and undesirable lawyers.

23. Registration.

General state of business.

70. The figures for the triennium under report under the head of compulsory registration affecting immovable property shew an increase in the number of transactions of nearly 11·7 per cent. and in their value of over 12·9 per cent. The actual numbers are 221 thousand as against 189 thousand, and the value is 1,780 lakhs as against 1,375 lakhs. The increase is, however, not progressive, as the totals for 1909 largely exceed those for both 1908 and 1910, while the total number of transactions of 1910 is less by 780 than that of 1908, though the value is greater by close on 267 lakhs.

Generally speaking, two causes may be assigned for the high level attained in 1909, *viz.*, the high prices which obtained in that year and the widespread epidemic of malaria which prevailed in the last quarter of 1908, while the reasons put forward for the drop of last year—which occurred in all districts except six, in all of which special conditions obtained—are good harvests, general prosperity and improved condition of trade.

Land Alienation Act and Registration.

71. The Land Alienation Act, which came into force in 1901, had at first a marked influence upon registration. Sales to all classes of persons became much less frequent. It is probable that this was due in part to a misunderstanding of the real scope of the Act on the part of agriculturists. The figures are worth quoting. The number of compulsory registrations of immovable property, which stood in 1900 at 81,501, fell in the following year to 46,629, but has now risen again to an average of 73,562 for the period under review. The important point, however, is not the number of sales, but the class to which the vendees belong. It is encouraging to find it stated that the working of co-operative societies reduced the number of sales in 1910 in two districts. The tendency to resort to 'benami' transactions in an endeavour to evade the provisions of the Alienation of Land Act requires to be met by increased care and vigilance on the part of the registering officers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

72. The income of the department in 1910 was Rs. 2,99,063 and its expenditure Rs. 1,38,858. The department is to be congratulated on the enviable distinction of being able to show a diminishing expenditure, going hand in hand with an increasing income.

24. Local Boards Administration.

Elections.

73. Elections still fail to arouse any interest and are more often than not uncontested. In Ferozepore where 25 seats fell vacant not one was contested, and in Siálkot only 4 out of 25 produced a contest. In Gujrát the Deputy Commissioner describes the election system as a pronounced failure. Three years ago only 1 seat was contested, and this year none at all. Moreover, out of 27 seats to be filled by election, 19 had to be filled by nomination, as no candidates came forward for them.

Meetings.

74. The number of meetings shows an improvement. In Siálkot and Dera Gházi Khan there were 13 meetings, in Karnál 10, in Gurgaon, Hoshiárpur, Attock and Montgomery 9. Kángra and Lyallpur were the only boards that met less than six times in the year. The attendance of members is fair. In Karnál the average has risen from 27 to 32, in Jhelum from 26 to 31. Only one allusion is made in this year's reports to meetings held at tahsil headquarters, and it is hoped that the suggestion made last year will be borne in mind.

Working of the boards.

75. The working of the boards was generally satisfactory. In Hoshiárpur the members are reported to take up local projects, bring them to the notice of the board and support them at the board meeting. Free discussion prevails, and the interest of members is stimulated and maintained. The Deputy Commissioner of Delhi reports several interesting discussions on draft bills affecting the agricultural interest, such as the Panchayat Bill and the Primary Education Bill. On the other hand, in Jhelum the Deputy Commissioner thinks it impossible to give the members responsibility "so long as we have District Engineers and audited accounts." An attempt made in Attock to get petty repairs to schools carried out by the local members proved a failure, though in Miánwáli a similar experiment was a great success. It is evident from these conflicting reports that the successful delegation of powers depends almost entirely on the personality of the district officer. The formation of sub-committees is extending. In Lyallpur a standing sub-committee meets monthly to deal with finance and report on any measures of importance which are to be submitted to the board. Plague sub-committees in Ludhiána formed by the people themselves are a new development, and should be useful.

General.

76. Veterinary hospitals were built at Kaithal, Zíra and Pánipat, and begun at Jagádhri, Rúpar and Kharar. The expenditure classed as veterinary is Rs. 45,000 only, while the provincial expenditure under this head is Rs. 2,82,000. The boards have, however, spent Rs. 96,000 on the purchase and maintenance of bulls and stallions. It is gratifying to observe that more attention is being paid to arboriculture. During the year two lakhs were spent throughout the province on roadside trees, Lyallpur leading the way with an expenditure of Rs. 34,000, while Siálkot spent Rs. 16,000 and

planted 22,000 trees and Gujrát spent Rs. 12,000. In Hissar a three-year programme was drawn up in 1909 and is being carried through. Tree guards made of bamboo wicker work have been found useful in protecting young trees.

25. Municipal Administration.

77. No new municipality was created in the year 1910-11. The civil station at Dharmsála was made a notified area, and new notified areas were constituted at Sillanwáli and Chorutta. The municipalities of Núrpur and Srígobindpur were converted to notified areas. The question is being considered of abolishing some of the smaller notified areas and municipalities, with a view to freeing small semi-urban communities in which municipal administration is not appreciated from the harassments incidental to municipal control. **New municipalities established and old municipalities abolished.**

78. From four divisions it is reported that little interest is taken in municipal elections. In the Ráwalpindi division 30 seats fell vacant, but only 9 were contested. In the Multán division out of 25 vacancies 8 were contested. In the southern part of the province things are rather different. In Jagráon the contest was so keen that it ended in a riot. In Delhi the elections were keenly though peacefully contested, and from Ambála, Jagádhri and Sadhaura it is reported that great interest is taken in the elections. In Palwal 92 per cent. of the voters came to the poll. **Elections.**

79. The municipal committees in the larger towns met regularly and frequently. Delhi held 63 meetings, Lahore 24, Amritsar 25 and Simla 56. Among the minor municipalities very few held less than the prescribed number of meetings. Attendance was generally good. The official president of the Sáhiwál municipality failed to attend 18 out of 27 meetings. The expediency of replacing official by non-official Presidents, wherever possible, except in the most important municipalities may be admitted. **Meetings.**

80. The working of the municipalities has been generally satisfactory. In Delhi sub-committees held 73 meetings. Vice-Presidents are doing good work in a few instances, particularly in Ambála, Hissar and Sirsa. The bye-laws passed during the year have for the most part been in the direction of a closer supervision over the sale of food and drink and the custody of explosives. **Working of the municipalities.**

81. The working of octroi during the year has been easy and uneventful. The municipal committee of Lahore found it necessary to amend article 74 of Municipal Account Code to prevent fraudulent refunds being granted on articles imported free through the post. Direct collection of octroi is the general rule, but in Karnál the collection of octroi on vegetables and fruits is leased. The receipts from the tax have risen in Lahore by 4 per cent. and in Amritsar by 21 per cent. In Delhi there is an increase of Rs. 40,000, and an increase of Rs. 35,000 in Multán has justified the appointment of a permanent Octroi Superintendent on good pay. Refunds are freely given in nearly all towns. The percentage of refunds is high in Ambála (31 per cent.), Bhiwáni (31 per cent.), Fázilka (28 per cent.), and Phillaur (26 per cent). In Lahore nearly one lakh of rupees (or 14 per cent.) was refunded and in Amritsar Rs. 1,13,000 (or 20 per cent). The octroi schedules of these towns seem to require careful scrutiny with a view to the exclusion from the tax of staple articles of the rough trade. It is in this direction that municipal committees should endeavour to reduce the cost of collection and the octroi establishment. **Taxation.**

82. Water-works are under construction or awaiting sanction in Rewári and Isa Khel. A drainage scheme is being made out for Amritsar which can be completed in instalments, and the committee is now in a position to spend Rs. 30,000 annually on city drainage. A grant has been made to the town for the reclamation of the *dhabs* or large swamps which surround it, and considerable expenditure is being incurred by Government in draining the riverain areas in Delhi and Lahore. In the latter town the committee also spent a lakh during the year on the extra-mural drainage scheme. The Delhi committee are preparing, with great care and at considerable cost, a map of the municipality, which should be of great value. The example of Delhi may be commended to the other large towns in the province. **Miscellaneous.**

26. Military (Volunteers).

Strength and distribution of Volunteer Forces.

83. The strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1911 is reported to have been as follows :—

Corps.	Company.	Station.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficients.	Sergeant-Instructors.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	7	...	...	7	7	4
	A	Lahore	3	14	52	69	64	...
	B	Ambála	1	7	42	50	46	...
	C	Ráwalpindi	3	11	69	83	75	...
	D R½	Pesháwar	1	2	19	22	20	...
	D L½	Amritsar	1	2	15	18	17	...
	Detachment	Delhi	1	4	16	21	21	...
	E	Lyallpur	...	2	21	23	18	...
		Multán	...	4	4	8	7	...
		Jhang	...	..	2	2	2	...
		Sargodha	...	...	5	5	5	...
		Montgomery...	...	1	6	7	7	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	80	81	81	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	9	...	..	9	...	...
		Total ...	27	47	331	405	370	4
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifle Corps.	...	Field Officers and Staff	10	...	...	10	10	9
	A., B., C and Cadet ½ Company	Lahore	8	32	189	229	216	...
	D	Ráwalpindi	1	10	124	135	129	...
	E	Amritsar	3	9	46	58	53	...
	F	Delhi	3	5	82	90	85	...
	G	Murree	2	8	40	50	45	...
	H	Do.	...	10	62	72	69	...
	I	Pesháwar	4	9	73	86	83	...
	K	Ferozepore	1	10	78	89	87	...
	L	Srínagar	3	6	63	72	63	...
	M	Siálkot	2	4	49	55	54	...
	Home school section.	Murree	1	1	10	12	11	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	114	115	83	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	22	...	...	22	...	...
		Total ...	61	104	930	1,095	988	9
Simla Volunteer Rifle Corps.	...	Field Officers and Staff	8	...	...	8	...	3
	A B C D and E	Simla	14	45	320	379	366	...
	F	Sanáwar	3	8	118	129	127	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	20	20	20	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	14	...	...	14	...	...
		Total ...	39	53	458	550	513	3
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifle Corps.	...	Field Officers and Staff	6	...	...	6	6	12
	C, D and H	Lahore	17	35	464	516	512	...
	A	Karachi Cantonment	3	11	60	74	73	...
	B	Multán	4	10	100	114	111	...
	E	Ambála	4	12	127	143	141	...
	F	Saháranpur	2	5	123	130	129	...
	G	Kotri	...	5	79	84	83	...
	I	Quetta	1	8	87	96	96	...
	K	Ráwalpindi	4	19	133	156	156	...
	L	Sukkur	1	12	89	102	101	...
	M	Karachi city	2	3	47	52	50	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	52	52	43	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	5	...	...	5	...	...
		Total ...	49	120	1,361	1,530	1,501	12

The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in February 1910, and the Simla Volunteer Rifle Corps in October 1910.

The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Agriculture.—(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1911.

(2) Annual Report of the Lyallpur Agricultural Station for the autumn and spring harvests, 1910-11.

(3) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1910-11.

(4) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1910.

(5) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1911.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the weather of the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1910-11.

Horticulture.—Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1911.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1910-11.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Reports on the working of the Dandot Colliery for the half-years ending 30th June 1910 and 31st December 1910.

(2) Statement showing the production of minerals and gems for the calendar year 1909.

Manufactures.—Report on the working of the Factories Act in the Punjab during the year 1910.

Trade.—(1) Report on the Internal Trade of the Punjab by Rail and River for the year ending March 31st, 1911.

(2) Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

(3) Report on the Joint-Stock Companies in the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

Public Works.—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1910-11.

Irrigation.—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Irrigation Branch, for the year 1910-11.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Agriculture.—As to *prices* see Prices and Wages in India.

Crops.—Agricultural Statistics of India, volume I, tables 2-I and 3-I.

Area and yield of certain principal crops in India.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Statistics of British India, Part I. (2) Records of the Geological Survey of India, volume XXXVII. (3) Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1910.

Manufactures.—Statistics of British India, Part I.

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the calendar year 1910.

Trade.—Accounts of the Trade carried by Rail and River in India.]

27. Agriculture.

84. The second active session of the Agricultural College commenced on July 20th, 1910, with a second year class of 10 students and a first year class of 25 students. The students of the second year have made great progress. There were no failures among them at the sessional examination held in May. The first year class possess in general only a scanty knowledge of English when entering the College, and their progress was comparatively slow. The advance in practical work is very satisfactory, and there is no desire on the part of the men to shirk the manual labour involved therein. Punjab Agricultural College.

Lyallpur Station.

85. The general conclusions deduced from the working of the Lyallpur farm are as follows :—

(1) Sub-soiling has proved beneficial in the case of sugarcane for the first time since the experiment was started three years ago.

(2) Nitrates either in the form of $C_a (N O_3)_2$ or of nitre have little or no residual effect in the succeeding season.

(3) $C_a (N O_3)_2$ though almost invariably giving an increased yield has not yet proved profitable.

(4) There appears to be no advantage in sowing cotton on ridges in good land.

(5) Less labour is required to get the land into proper condition with the furrow turning than the *desi* plough.

(6) Green manuring with *san* (hemp) has proved very beneficial in regenerating light soil.

Gurdaspur Station.

86. Roads and paths have been made at the Gurdáspur agricultural station, the total area of which is about 104 acres, of which one-half was under timber. The two main subjects of experiment to be undertaken are the sugarcane crop and the investigation of the possibilities of increasing the fertility and moisture capacity of *barani* soils.

Miscellaneous.

87. Experiments show that cassava will not grow in the Punjab, and that improvements are possible in the potato crop in the hills. The dates from Arabia promise well, and it is hoped that Punjab rubber from the *cryptostegia grandiflora* may some day be quoted on the market. The plant grows freely in all parts of the province and the reproduction, where it is once established, is very rapid. The quality of the rubber produced is good.

The Deputy Director was fully occupied with the creation of the Gurdáspur agricultural station, and had less time than usual for demonstrations with machinery. It is encouraging, however, that an English firm with the reputation of Messrs. Ransomes at Ipswich should think it worth-while to send out an expert to Lyallpur.

A collection of the crop products of the province brought from the Lahore Exhibition has been arranged in the museum of the Agricultural College. The collection is a very representative and instructive one, and should consequently be of great value to the college and the department. A good beginning has been made with well-boring experiments, and the success obtained in the Rohtak district in obtaining considerable supplies of underground water at lower depths than are at present tapped by ordinary wells is noticeable. Some experiments with wheat and grain preservation were started during the summer at Lyallpur and Ráwalpindi with the object of preventing weevil in masses of stored grain. A preliminary survey of the constitution of the alkali-infected soils of the provinces was concluded by the Agricultural Chemist, but no great advance appears to have yet been made towards the solution of the problem.

Punjab Veterinary College.

88. The year has been one of expectation and disappointment. The Government of India has decided that the college must be enlarged so as to serve as the sole veterinary college for the whole of Northern India. This means more professors, more laboratories and more space. Schemes have been drawn up to provide all these, and have been, or will be, submitted to Government. But disappointment will continue so long as the selection of a site for the enlarged college is delayed.

As to the details of the work of the college, it is unnecessary to do more than quote from the report of the examiners :—"The Board is of opinion that the students generally are lacking in practical knowledge. It is not necessary to go far to find the reason. The classes are overcrowded, and as a result it is impossible for the present staff to give the students attention and instruction individually. . . . . We notice that the present dissecting room appears to be capable of accommodating some 16 to 20 students. In the Anatomy class there are 77 students. . . . . It would appear that students become qualified without even an elementary knowledge of the simplest laboratory methods."

The demand for veterinary graduates continues to exceed the supply. Each year now, till the college is enlarged or rebuilt, the supply of graduates will become less, as the number of students has to be reduced so as to gain in efficiency.

Civil Veterinary Department.

89. During the year under report 217,823 cases of epidemic disease were reported, of which 74,696 proved fatal. The figures for the previous year were 337,146 cases and 51,547 deaths. The decrease in reported cases is mainly under foot-and-mouth disease, there being a decrease of 163,463 cases. The increase in the number of deaths is probably due to the information supplied by patwaris being more accurate, and at the same time rinderpest has been more severe than usual, having been more or less prevalent in all the districts throughout the year, and it alone accounts for 50,278 deaths as against 18,910 last year. That 102,543 inoculations against this disease were carried out is satisfactory, and the fact that only 300 deaths occurred among inoculated cattle should induce still more cattle-owners to have their cattle inoculated, but reports received from district officers show that inoculation is far from popular, and the decision of Government not at present to charge fees for inoculation rescues the treatment from threatened collapse.

At the close of year under report there were 485 stud bulls at work in the districts against 472 last year. There were 76 additions and 63 casualties. All the bulls are the property of local bodies.

The question of cattle-breeding has been brought into greater prominence by Mr. Stow's monograph on the subject, and it is to be hoped that the Civil Veterinary Department will devote all the attention they can spare to a subject of such vital importance to the population at large.

Loans to agriculturists.

90. Owing to favourable seasons the amount advanced under Act XIX of 1883 (Land Improvements Loans) was smaller than that in any of the five preceding years with the exception of 1905-06, while advances under Act XII of 1884 (Agriculturists Loans Act) fell below the figure for any of these years. Good harvests afforded an excellent opportunity for clearing accounts, and recoveries both of principal and interest were satisfactory.

The total of the advances during the year under Act XIX of 1883 amounted to Rs. 1,52,639. Over Rs. 20,000 were advanced in Gurgaon and Multán for masonry wells, while loans amounting to over Rs. 10,000 were made in Montgomery for wells and water-courses, in Muzaffargarh for wells, and in Attock for wells and dams. In the last district 17 new wells and 39 dams were completed during the year under report. Twenty-four new dams were also constructed with the aid of loans from Government in the Ráwalpindi district. Works appear to have been regularly inspected, and care to have been taken that the loans are applied to the objects for which they are granted. Three hundred and sixty new wells were completed from takavi advances, the largest numbers being reported from Gurgaon (32), Jullundur (24), Ludhiána (86), Siálkot (22), Multán (57), Muzaffargarh (35). The number of wells sunk without the help of a Government loan was 3,320.

Advances amounting to Rs. 1,78,520 were made during the year under Act XII of 1884. Loans amounting to over Rs. 30,000 were distributed in Muzaffargarh and Miánwali, over Rs. 20,000 in Montgomery, and over Rs. 10,000 in Amritsar (chiefly in the Ajnála tahsil), Gurdáspur, Sialkot, Multán and Dera Gházi Khan. On the other hand, Rs. 4,380 sufficed for the whole of the Delhi division. Government has gained Rs. 98,236 in the operations under both Acts. The result for the past six years has been a net gain of Rs. 93,969 under Act XIX of 1883 and a net loss of Rs. 79,652 under Act XII of 1884.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

91. The record of the co-operative movement in the Punjab for 1910-11 may be thus summarised: an increase in the number of societies of 55 per cent., in membership of 34 per cent., and in working capital of 80 per cent. The last now amounts to 28½ lakhs, of which 31 per cent. consists of shares and

39 per cent. of deposits. The results achieved in Jullundur in the way of attracting deposits from non-members are remarkable. These amount to Rs. 2,64,000, and it is very satisfactory to note that Rs. 1,73,000 have been contributed by money-lenders. The future of village banks elsewhere depends largely on their ability to establish public confidence in the security which they offer to the depositor. Societies are now to be found in all districts of the Punjab with the exception of Delhi, Muzaffargarh, Dera Gházi Khan, Ferozepore and Hissar. The Delhi division, Ráwalpindi and Kángra record only beginnings. But the seed once sown, with due care and attention, is capable of rapid development. The object to be aimed at for some years to come, however, is consolidation and expansion within the districts where co-operation has already taken root rather than extension to new districts.

Growth in the two districts, where the movement is most firmly established, has been satisfactory. Four hundred, or one-third of the total number of villages in the Jullundur district, are now directly interested in 318 societies. Membership has increased from 13,298 to 20,172 and working capital, which last year was over 6 lakhs, has been doubled. The flourishing Chuheki Bank has gained the credit of being the first society to employ a Sub-Inspector of its own. A disappointing kharif crop retarded the rate of progress in Gurdáspur, but even in that district the number of societies increased from 157 to 202 and capital from over 4 lakhs to over 5½ lakhs, while loans to the amount of nearly two lakhs were recovered from members.

Central banks have developed their business considerably. The Jullundur Central Bank after carrying 25 per cent. of profits to reserve was able to declare a dividend of 10 per cent. The earnings of the Gurdáspur Bank permitted a similar dividend. The Gujrát and Shahpur banks earned dividends of 6 per cent., but the Hoshiárpur and Jhelum banks were less successful. With the exception of the Jullundur Central Bank all these institutions have been hampered by lack of deposits. In order to provide the funds necessary for financing village societies a system of cash credits on favourable terms has been arranged with the Bank of Bengal.

Ninety-eight per cent. of the societies are rural. But urban societies have also increased in numbers. The Phillour society, a co-operative shop for members of the Police School, declared a dividend of 10 per cent. after due deductions for the reserve fund and depreciation. The new urban societies are of the industrial type, four of the five being intended to assist handloom weavers to ply their trade. This movement is in its infancy, but the results so far are promising.

Prices.

92. Excepting cotton, wheat and rapeseed, harvest prices were considerably lower than in 1909-10. Cotton prices were higher than they have ever been: wheat was only slightly cheaper in 1911 than in 1910: the somewhat poor rape crop and European demand resulted in a marked rise of prices.

Hissar reports:—"Zamindars have generally sufficient stock of grain for their personal consumption, and grain-dealers are stated to have stocked food-grains, particularly gram, in large quantities for mercantile purposes." Rohtak says:—"It is noticeable that zamindars have begun to show a tendency to store grain and only send a portion of their produce for sale to the market." Ludhiána says:—"The zamindars as usual keep stocks, and are loth to dispose of them until they can make the most of them. Food stocks are ample." Jhang says:—"The grain stock is large, and the people are waiting for an increase in the price of grain and are not exhausting their stock." Generally food stocks are reported to be sufficient or large.

28. Weather and Crops.

Weather and crops.

93. The monsoon of 1910 was fitful, and till the end of August threatened again and again to fail. The rain, however, always reappeared in time to save the crops, and so the results were generally favourable. But there was too much rain at one time and too little at another, and so sowings were short in one place and floods did damage in another. There was no rain in

September in the north and west of the province, but generally the final August rains had been so heavy as to leave enough moisture for rabi sowings. In October there was heavy and abnormal rain in the Delhi division, which damaged the millets and cotton considerably, but led to large rabi sowings.

The winter rains were abundant in January, and the season progressed very favourably till March declared itself as excessively wet and cloudy. Taken all round, the year was good enough almost to satisfy even the cultivator, who could, however, have his grumble over the cane that was spoiled by frost and the wheat that was shrivelled, rusted and smutted by untimely rain, when a bumper crop was in sight. Plague seriously interfered with harvesting operations in Gurgaon, Amritsar, Gurdáspur, Siálkot, Gujránwala and Lyallpur.

The kharif figures were about normal for the irrigated area and under normal for the unirrigated area. The sowings were seriously short only in part of the Delhi division owing to want of rain in the end of July. Seventeen per cent. of the sown area failed, and three-quarters of the failure was in unirrigated crops. For the kharif harvest this is not a large amount of failure; and on the whole the harvest was a good one, but less good than in 1909.

The area sown in the rabi was 16 per cent. better than the normal. Only 9 per cent. of the sown area is shewn by the statistics to have failed, but this is certainly optimistic, as in many districts the wheat did not weigh out to anything like the tonnage expected. Owing to rust and shrivelled grain in Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Delhi and Karnál much large areas than usual were sown and cropped—a fortunate circumstance in view of the failure of the kharif of 1911.

Turning to individual crops, the season was everywhere favourable throughout for rice, and the crop was 17 per cent. above normal. Except in Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon jowar and bajra did well. Sugarcane in the Central Punjab suffered severely from the frost in December. The area cropped was normal. The heavy September rains damaged the cotton in many districts, but the high prices realised benefited the cultivators greatly. Though the area under wheat was the largest since 1907, the rains and clouds of March reduced the outturn very considerably. The yield of barley is estimated at 323,000 tons and of gram 1,309,000 tons.

94. The total irrigated area of the year was 10,357,306 acres, of which 3,071,309 acres were irrigated from wells and most of the rest from canals. Here again there are no unusual variations. Such as they are, they result from the rain being timely or the reverse; for instance, well irrigation in Jullundur was less than in the preceding year by 10,000 acres in the kharif and 16,000 acres in the rabi, whereas in Siálkot the well area rose by nearly 47,000 acres chiefly in the rabi. The only districts in which the canal-irrigated areas were largely in excess of those of last year were Hissar (+ 45,000 acres, mostly in rabi); Dera Gházi Khan (+ 66,000 acres, equally in both harvests); Amritsar (+ 42,000 acres, mostly in the rabi). **Irrigated area.**

29. Horticulture.

95. Classes were started on the 1st October 1910 for the training of malis and boys. There were 17 students in the latter and 5 in the former class; so far they have shown a keen interest in their work, and the prospects of turning out good malis are promising. The course of instruction for the mali class comprises (1) practical experience in each part of the gardens; (2) conversational lectures while engaged on the work in progress by the Superintendent; (3) lectures on the laying out of small gardens, selection of plants and trees, and on the use and care of garden implements; (4) lessons in reading and writing English numbers. The demand for good malis is on the increase, and last year 36 posts on pay of Rs. 15—20 per mensem were filled. **Agri-Horticultural Gardens.**

Considerable damage was done by a sharp attack of frost in December, which killed about 10,000 young orange and lime plants, besides injuring

other young trees and shrubs. This will seriously affect the next two years' income.

A collection of bulbs and roots was imported from Europe for experimental work.

Among the most successful were *Lilium Candidum, Tigrinum, Harrisii, Umbellatum, Spirea Japonica and Plumosa.* Indents for plants and seeds from Government and private purchasers were good, and show an increase over last year by about 150 orders.

30.—Forests.

Area.

96. The total area under the control of the Forest Department was reduced from 8,752·10 square miles to 8,733·93 square miles. The main reduction consisted in the disforestation of 1,229 acres of reserved forests in the Shahpur division, for colonization purposes, and of 8,728 acres of unclassed forests similarly abandoned in the Multán division.

Settlements.

97. The settlement of the Pabar Range forests in the Bashahr division has received the sanction of Government. The resettlement of the Kángra forests, a most difficult question, is still under consideration, and possibly an amendment of Chapter IV of the Forest Act will be required.

Demarcation and survey.

98. Consequent on the reduction in the total area under the control of the Department, the total length of artificially demarcated boundaries fell from 9,907 to 9,753 miles. Four hundred and twenty-nine square miles of forests were surveyed by the Survey Department in the Chenab, Lahore, Montgomery and Shahpur divisions.

Working plans

99. Proposals for the revision of the current working plans of the Kulu, Sutlej Valley, Murree, Kahúta, Jubbal, Pangi, Kot Khái, Kot Guru, Dalhousie and Taroch forests have been accepted by Government, the group method of treatment being substituted for the selection method. The working plan of the Upper Ravi forests, on the group system, was introduced for the working season of 1911.

Communications and buildings.

100. The total expenditure on roads and bridges was Rs. 1,06,946. Two miles of cart road were completed and 38 miles of mule roads and paths constructed. The Patriata ropeway has been completed, after great difficulties had been experienced owing to defects in the design. It has cost some 20 per cent. in excess of the amount of the tender. Owing to the necessity of providing additional funds for this work, the expenditure on buildings was reduced to Rs. 14,234.

Forest offences.

101. Throughout the province forest offences are increasing steadily. In 1908-09, 6,752 cases were brought to notice. In 1909-10 the number was 7,379, and in the year under report, 7,890. Out of 6,783 offences disposed of by forest officers under section 67 of the Forest Act, 2,439 occurred in Kángra, 1,246 in Ráwalpindi, and 1,265 in Jhelum. The remarks of the Conservator as to the dangers of allowing offences to be compounded indicate a serious state of things, and the Commissioners of divisions might consider with the local forest officers if some remedy cannot be found.

Protection from fire.

102. The area attempted to be protected was 666,867 acres. The total number of fires was 236, burning over 20,992 acres, of which 14,935 were in Ráwalpindi alone, a serious fact which calls for investigation.

Protection against injuries from natural causes.

103. The investigations of various officers into fungus and insect pests are interesting, but they are instructive mainly as indicating how imperfect is our knowledge of sylvicultural conditions. It is to be hoped, however, that in a few years it will be possible to formulate more definite conclusions on the subject of natural reproduction, with which the damage done by disease and by insects is intimately bound up.

Exploitation.

104. A central factory for the distillation of resin, capable of dealing with 8,000 maunds of crude resin, has been established at Shahdara. The object in view is to show that the industry can be established on a profitable basis

in order that eventually it may be taken over by private enterprise. The quantity of timber removed by departmental agency was 205,805 cubic feet, and of fuel 747,484 cubic feet solid. Purchasers removed 3,727,905 cubic feet of timber and 4,685,588 cubic feet solid of firewood. The figures for last year were 3,075,203 cubic feet and 3,373,771 cubic feet, respectively. The principal increase under the head of timber was due to the opening up of the Pabar forests in Bashahr, and under firewood to increases in Kángra and to sales to brick-burning contractors in Lahore.

Experiments.

105. Experiments with new varieties are proceeding. In the low hills there appears to be an opening for the quick-growing eucalyptus. The experiments in rubber growing are most encouraging. The results of dipping the ends of soft wood sleepers in coal tar are so remarkable that the experiment should be extended. Similarly, the result of more extensive tapping for resin suggests that much more resin can be obtained without serious danger to the life of the trees.

Administrative.

106. A scheme for the reorganisation of the clerical staff has been submitted to the Local Government. The question of the establishment of a school for Forest Rangers, in conjunction with the Lyallpur Agricultural College, is under consideration.

Arboriculture.

District boards and municipalities.

107. The total length of the avenues under district boards at the commencement of the period dealt with in the report, *viz.*, 1908-09 to 1910-11, was 8,302 miles, and at its close 9,014 miles : 60·3 per cent. of the total length of roads suitable for planting with avenues were planted up during the triennium. No planting of avenues was carried out in the Miánwáli, Gurgaon and Gurdáspur districts, or in the Jhang, Karnál, Amritsar, Delhi and Ráwalpindi municipalities.

The area under groves increased from 4,823 acres to 4,877 acres, and the area under plantations decreased from 1,879 acres to 1,811 acres, while the acreage of the nurseries planted rose from 265 to 278.

The gross revenue from arboriculture was Rs. 7,69,288, or Rs. 1,29,750 more than that of the previous triennial period ; while the expenditure was Rs. 11,62,427, or Rs. 2,06,081 in excess. The highest gross revenue was realized in the Siálkot district with Rs. 1,09,358.

Canal arboriculture.

108. The length of roads and canals suitable for avenues under the Irrigation Department increased during the period under report from 8,773 miles to 9,101. Seven hundred and eighty-nine miles were successfully planted as compared with 1,443 in 1905-06 to 1907-08.

The percentage of failures amounted to 27·83 as against 37·21 in the previous triennium, which is satisfactory. There are no groves under the Irrigation Department, which, however, planted 2,240 acres of plantations. There was an increase in the percentage of failure, attributed chiefly to bad soil. On the Jhelum Canal it is proposed to try *farash* in certain areas where *kikar* sowing failed owing to salts in the soil. The income amounted to Rs. 3,81,747 and the expenditure to Rs. 7,86,190, the former being slightly less and the latter slightly greater than in the previous period.

Arboriculture in Provincial Divisions, Public Works Department.

109. The length of new avenues planted amounts to 80 miles against 145 miles in the previous three years. Failures amounted to 13·02 per cent. as compared with 19·25.

The revenue for the period under report amounted to Rs. 92,158 and the expenditure to Rs. 96,993, thus showing a deficit of Rs. 4,835 as compared with a surplus of Rs. 21,127 in the previous triennium. More money

has been spent on existing groves and avenues and on establishment. Jullundur, Lyallpur and Ambála are the only divisions which worked with a surplus. The value of the standing timber is highest in the Jullundur division, where it is estimated at Rs. 3,20,000.

31. Mines and Quarries.

Gold. 110. Gold washing in the Ambála, Jhelum, Miánwáli and Attock districts produced 106 ounces of gold, worth Rs. 6,476.

Kankar. 111. Three thousand and six hundred tons of block kankar were dug in the Ambála district.

Slates. 112. The outturn of slates quarried (in Kángra and Gurgaon) amounted to 9,539 tons, 5,607 tons of which came from mines regulated by the Act.

Coal. 113. The output of the coal mines in Jhelum, Shahpur and Miánwáli amounted to 49,189 tons.

Limestone. 114. Nine thousand eight hundred and ninety-four tons of limestone were extracted—all but 600 tons in the Jhelum district.

Petroleum. 115. One thousand and sixty-four gallons of petroleum were obtained in the Miánwáli district.

Alum. 116. The output of alum amounted to 3,408 tons ; it is obtained in the Miánwáli district.

Gypsum. 117. The outturn was 2,287 tons, from the Delhi and Jhelum districts.

Salt. 118. The total outturn was 119,867 tons.

32. Manufactures.

Number of factories. 119. The total number of factories is now 262. One hundred and ninety-one of these are cotton-ginning mills. In Lyallpur there are said to be too many factories. Both there and in Multán there appears to be a pooling arrangement among all the cotton-ginning factories. The cotton crop was a bad one, and most of the ginning mills worked short time.

Operatives. 120. The persons employed numbered 29,626, some 1,000 more than in 1909. Of these, 3,951 were women and 871 children. There is reason to fear that in many districts illegalities in connection with the employment of women and children are numerous, and more frequent resort should be made to prosecutions, if warnings are disregarded. There was not, as a matter of fact, a single prosecution under the Act during the year.

Inspections. 121. One hundred and ninety-three factories were inspected once or oftener. Of the 69 factories not inspected at all, 34 were closed throughout the year.

Holidays. 122. Of the factories at work during the year, apart from those exempted, 160 report that they give a holiday on Sundays, 55 on varying week days. The Sunday holiday is commoner than last year, which is so much the better. The midday stoppage is generally observed.

Wages. 123. Wages, especially of unskilled labour, continue to rise ; 10 annas a day is stated to be the minimum wage for labour of the latter kind in Hissar and Lyallpur. In the Central Punjab rates are lower. There were 8 fatal accidents during the year.

33. Trade.

INTERNAL TRADE.

124. The total trade by rail and river in each of the past three years, excluding animals and treasure, is shown in the table below :— Total trade.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1908-09	42,190,762	24,24,69,842	24,393,143	15,30,95,643
1909-10	39,743,586	25,01,28,904	45,501,556	25,17,11,928
1910-11	42,340,721	26,62,99,310	50,299,736	25,43,82,426

The imports are the largest on record. The exports are recovering; but in weight they do not approach the figures of the two great years, 1906-07 and 1907-08, when the exports of wheat were so unusually large. The fall in prices is reflected in the smallness of the rise in the value of the exports as compared with the rise in their weight.

125. The imports of Indian yarn have risen by 10 lakhs of rupees. Imports. Piece-goods, both Foreign (+ 33 lakhs of rupees) and Indian (+ 37 lakhs), continue to be imported in increased quantities. The imports of "other iron manufactures including hardware and cutlery" from Karachi have increased by 29 lakhs of rupees, of medicinal preparations by 5 lakhs, of other oils by 9 lakhs, of foreign woollen piece-goods by 4 lakhs, of Indian woollen piece-goods by 10 lakhs, of other woollen manufactures by 8 lakhs, and of "all other articles of merchandize" by 10 lakhs of rupees. All these increases may be ascribed to the prosperity of the people of the province.

The imports of kerosine oil have increased by only 4,000 maunds in weight, but by 5¼ lakhs of rupees in value. Even so small an increase in consumption is satisfactory when prices have been so high.

The imports of refined sugar have increased by 5 lakhs of maunds and 37 lakhs of rupees. As our provincial production of gur is yearly increasing and our imports of gur yearly decreasing, the growing imports of refined sugar testify to the well-being of the people of the Punjab, who can consume so much more refined sugar, in addition to their gur, than heretofore.

The import of gold coin has gone up by 204 lakhs of rupees, while the imports of silver coin and bullion have dropped by 124 lakhs of rupees. There are 280 lakhs of rupees in gold coin, 142 lakhs of rupees in silver bullion and 4 lakhs of rupees in silver coin more in the Punjab at the close of the year than there were at the beginning.

The decrease of 5 lakhs in the imports of coal and coke is due to short working of cotton ginning and spinning mills, there having been less cotton to gin and the high price of raw cotton making spinning unprofitable.

126. The only considerable exports of yarn, whether Indian or Foreign, Exports. are from Delhi to the United Provinces; these exports in the case of Indian yarn fell by 18,336 maunds and in the case of Foreign yarn rose by 5,569 maunds. The exports of raw wool—chiefly to Karachi—rose by 47,000 maunds. The exports of raw cotton decreased by 4½ lakhs of maunds, owing to a short crop, but the value increased to 26½ lakhs of rupees owing to the high prices. "Other sorts" of railway materials swelled the export returns by 54 lakhs of rupees.

The exports of gram and pulse fell by 40 lakhs of rupees in value, though 2½ more lakhs of maunds left the province. The exports of *jowar* and *bajra*, following the poor crop in the Delhi division, dropped by 4¼ lakhs of maunds. Both raw skins and raw hides show large decreases; the American demand was apparently slacker than usual.

River borne trade.

127. Goods weighing 238,780 maunds were imported, and exports amounted to 2,018,975 maunds; both figures show a slight increase in last year's totals.

Trade with Trans-Frontier Countries.

Trade with Afghanistan.

128. This is registered at Khar in the Dera Gházi Khan district. It nominally follows two routes,—one *viâ* Musa Khel and Zhob and Kamar-din Karez; the second *viâ* Peshin or Toba from Kandahar. No trade, however, is recorded as having passed by the latter route: all went *viâ* Kamar-din Karez. Imports show a very substantial increase of over Rs. 70,000 in value: this is nearly all in fruits, vegetables and *ghi*, and is due to the high prices prevailing in the Punjab and Baluchistan. Exports also show an increase, though a smaller one, amounting to Rs. 25,000. This is visible mainly in European piece-goods, rice, sugar and manufactured leather articles. This seems to point to a higher standard of living among the tribesmen. The increase in leather articles is probably due to the export of boots and shoes, the demand for which is a steady one across the frontier.

Trade with Ladakh.

129. All the trade with Ladakh during the year passed *viâ* Sultánpur and Kulu. None *viâ* the Nachar route from Simla. Imports, though they have decreased in weight, show an increase in the value of Rs. 32,000. Charas fell in weight by 168 maunds, but rose in value by Rs. 40,000. Raw wool shows an increase from Rs. 3,900 to Rs. 15,700: apparently much of this wool was collected some time ago, and would have been imported last year had not transport failed. Much borax is said to be lying unsold in Kulu and Hoshiárpur. Exports have increased in value by half a lakh. Indian tea has increased by over Rs. 11,000 owing, it is said, to a rise in the price of tea in Tibet. Cotton piece-goods, both European and Indian, show considerable increases, particularly the former. This increase is explained in Kulu, so far as European piece-goods go, by the facilities given by the bonded warehouse established at Hoshiárpur.

Trade with Tibet.

130. The greater part of this goes *viâ* the Simla routes; less *viâ* Kulu. Imports are, practically, the same as last year in value; the slight differences under the various heads do not call for explanation. Exports are better by Rs. 48,000. More than half of this increase, however, is in silver. The tea exports (green aud black combined) are practically as last year. Otherwise the increases are fairly well distributed between the following heads:—Coral, grain and pulses, precious stones, brass and copper, and manufactured silk and wool.

Joint Stock Companies.

131. As regards companies with share capital, 20 new companies were registered during the year. Seven companies ceased to exist. There are now 149 companies on the register. The nominal capital is 580 lakhs. The paid-up capital has increased by 13 lakhs to 185 lakhs.

Of the new companies, two are banks, seven are insurance or benefit companies, one is a soap factory, one a sugar factory, one a factory for agricultural machinery, and the rest trading companies of various kinds.

The defunct companies include the notorious "Industrial East," which was a European company practising fraud on a large scale, and its sister company the Punjab General Transport Company. A so-called spinning mill, with a nominal capital of 17 lakhs—none paid-up, has been wound up, after the chief promoter had been sentenced to two years' imprisonment. The only company with much paid-up capital (Rs. 1,69,930) which went into liquidation was the Islamia Printing and Publishing Company of Delhi which brought down, though after the close of the year, the connected Islamia Bank.

The Registrar has recently begun to refuse Memoranda of Association in which the signatures of subscribers are witnessed by other subscribers and to insist on outside witness. This is in accordance with English practice, and is a precaution which some recent cases have shown to be very necessary.

34. Public Works.

Total expenditure.

132. The total expenditure for the year on Public Works in the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Public Works Department was 48½ lakhs, or the same as last year.

Famine Relief Works.

133. Some eighty projects, calculated to give employment to 150,000 persons for six months, have been completed for tracts in the south-east of the Province.

Imperial Military Works.

134. Of Rs. 1,43,092 spent under this head, Rs. 15,990 were expended on the water-supply for the paddocks at Sargodha, and Rs. 21,327 on metalled roads for the Remount Depôt.

Imperial Civil Works.

135. The total outlay was Rs. 4,14,847. The works completed include quarters for Telegraph peons at Simla; the conversion of the Press Room at the Foreign Office into a Record Room; and combined Post and Telegraph offices at Upper and Lower Dharmsala.

Provincial Civil Works.

136. The total expenditure was Rs. 1,65,498 on original works and Rs. 14,87,139 on repairs. The principal works undertaken were as follows:—An enlarged new katcheri at Gujrat; a new tahsil and combined residence and court-house for the Assistant Commissioner at Fazilka; alterations to district katcheri at Jullundur; additional out-house accommodation at 'Ellerslie,' Simla; the provision of fixtures to the chemistry and main blocks and other works for the Lyallpur Agricultural College; the extension of the Chemical Laboratory, Government College, Lahore, and the provision of the necessary fittings; the extension of the Cemetery at Simla; the construction of the Sessions' house and District Judge's residence at Lower Dharmsála; the extension of the Reformatory School, Delhi; the conversion of the District Jail, Lahore, into a Central Jail; the completion of Police Stations at Ketha Segral, Lower Dharmsála, Bhawarna, Pattoki and Haveli; a Police rest-house at Bhawarna and a residence for the Superintendent of Police at Lower Dharmsála; the construction of a hospital at Kálabágh, and quarters for the Public Works Department at Lower Dharmsála.

Roads.

137. The Provincial outlay on roads amounted to Rs. 3,97,385 on Works and Rs. 10,59,300 on Repairs. The mileage of Provincial metalled roads outside municipal limits maintained from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 1,112. Apart from work in progress 118 miles of feeder roads were completed during the year. A suspension bridge was built over the Sutlej at Dehar.

Miscellaneous.

138. The water-supply and drainage of the Pattoki Mandi and the metalling of certain roads in the Agri-Horticultural Gardens at Lahore were completed. Good progress was made with the Simla Hydro-Electric Scheme; about two-thirds of the tunnel through the Panhera ridge has been completed and about one-fifth of the concrete flume. At Dharmsála the water-supply was extended to the new civil station. The drainage of the western part of the town of Gujránwála was completed. Projects amounting to Rs. 9,77,793 were scrutinized for local bodies.

Railways.

139. There was an increase of Rs. 81·49 lakhs in the earnings of the North-Western Railway, bringing the net earnings up to 251 lakhs. Passenger earnings accounted for 26·64 of this. Heavy bookings of wheat, oil-seeds and raw cotton were again the main cause of the improved receipts from goods traffic. The length of open line comprised in the system amounted in 1910 to 4,772·78 miles.

The principal works completed during the year comprise the new carriage and wagon shops at Lahore, the new Beas-Sutlej bridges, and an aerial ropeway, designed to carry grain from the Kálka-Simla Railway goods terminus to the Ganj at Simla.

Surveys were carried for the line from Siálkot to Amritsar, a distance of about 100 miles, and were in progress for the line from Jakhal to Hissar, 50 miles.

Four persons were killed and three seriously injured in an accident at Hirok station, due to the failure of the vacuum brakes. The line on the Kotri-Karachi City section was breached at several places in July 1910.

The question of the possibility of introducing the use of grain elevators was investigated by an informal committee in 1909, but it was decided that this was a question in which the initiative could more suitably be taken by the Karachi Port Trust and by the traders concerned.

35. Irrigation.

General.

140. The direct receipts of the Irrigation Department during the year were Rs. 2,09,18,979 and the direct expenditure Rs. 2,13,71,638, of which Rs. 1,26,72,029 was due to capital and Rs. 86,99,609 to working expenses. In addition to the direct receipts, the indirect revenue credited to the canals on account of enhanced land revenue, &c., amounted to Rs. 43,97,483. The total area irrigated by Major and Minor Works amounted to 7,227,042 acres, as against an average of 7,091,739 acres in the three previous years.

Western Jumna Canal.

141. The principal works carried out were—work was started and is still in progress on an embankment at Dadupur connecting the circular bund with the high land at Balachaur to keep Somb floods out of the canal. The Indri silting reach was reopened. The remodelling and extension of the Nurka Minor was completed. A considerable amount of money has been spent by the owners on the improvement of their water-courses in and around Delhi. Rupees 5,05,948 were expended on maintenance and repairs. The floods of 1910 did much damage to the works at Tájewála.

The total area irrigated was 585,438 acres. This is 245,362 acres less than the maximum proposed to be irrigated in this canal. The net income amounted to Rs. 12,34,235, equivalent to 7·10 per cent. on the capital outlay as against Rs. 10,36,612 and 5·97 per cent. last year. The increase is due to the fact that Rs. 2,75,586 were credited for the first time to the Irrigation Department on account of share of enhanced land revenue and interest on sale-proceeds of waste land benefited. Two projects for utilizing the water to be obtained from the Sarda Ganges scheme—one to utilise 816 cusecs and an alternative project to utilise 1,400 cusecs—are at present under consideration.

Sirhind Canal.

142. The works carried out include a ferry crossing for Bul village, a drainage syphon and bridge on Jarrowal distributary, repairs to training works in Budki torrents, raising bund and spurs in Siswan outfall, water-proofing bed first two miles of Jagraon distributary.

Eight lakhs, forty-three thousands four hundred and forty-seven acres were irrigated during the year ; there was a decrease of about 38 per cent. in the kharif, due to copious rains, which also reduced the area matured by the aid of irrigation in the rabi. The profit on the British branches amounted to Rs. 11,19,606, or 4·46 per cent. on the capital invested. The rate per acre irrigated comes to Rs. 1·58 as against Rs. 1·72 in 1909-10. Though the question is a complex one, it would appear that the enhancement of the water rate has led to a decrease in the area sown with sugarcane.

Upper Bari Doab Canal.

143. The bulk of the expenditure was under the head "IV—Suspense," and embraces expenditure on the purchase of stock on manufacture operations in the Central Workshops Division and on important innovations introduced in the workshops, where the year has been a very busy one. They are now well equipped in all departments except possibly the erecting of the component parts of machines.

The works executed include the reduction of outlets on the Handal, Turkwind Rakh and Manjoki distributaries, remodelling Manjoki and Tulki minors : 1,035,442 acres were irrigated, which is more than the average of the last triennium, and is chiefly due to very good irrigation done in the rabi in the 3rd Division. The net income of the year was Rs. 25,06,833, or 11·93 per cent. on the capital outlay.

Lower Chenab Canal.

144. Among other items, a new water wing to the left side of the Chenawan Regulator and a divide wall at Sagar were constructed ; the inner slopes of the Jhang Branch Upper in the Lyallpur Division was pitched ; and the new Khanuána Distributary was completed. Rupees 10,07,440 were spent on maintenance.

Large improvements were carried out to the Upper Gugera Branch in connection with silt troubles, and the channel should before long be capable of carrying its authorised supply.

The year was a very favourable one as regards the area irrigated and the remissions granted, showing a profit of 28·66 per cent., the area irrigated—2,215,492 acres—being the largest on record. The net revenue for the year was Rs. 83,24,338.

An Outlet Remodelling Division was opened to test Gibbs' modules, to apply it to bad distributaries and to investigate the flow of water in channels and within the soil.

Lower Jhelum Canal.

145. Expenditure on extensions and improvements amounted to Rs. 1,55,086, and was chiefly incurred on constructing a spur 2,000 feet below the Rasúl weir on the left flank of the river ; raising the shutters of bays 4 and 5 to 6 feet high ; remodelling masonry work on distributaries ; improving inspection houses. Special repairs were done to the bridges on the main line and to inspection houses ; the wood beams under the tramway for the travellers and the Rasúl undersluices were renewed ; the banks of the Northern Branch were strengthened and renewed.

The total area irrigated was 746,466 acres—an increase of 46,892 acres due to the development of irrigation on this canal. The net revenue realized was Rs. 19,24,417, or 11·89 per cent. on the capital outlay.

There were large floods, doing no damage, in August ; no rain fell in September. There was good winter rain at the end of January and an abnormal fall at the end of March. Both seasons were favourable. Some progress has been made in the direction of inducing the people to divide their fields into proper compartments (*kiaris*).

Upper Sutlej Inundation Canal.

146. Temporary regulators were constructed for the Katora Canal and two bays added to the escape head ; bridges on the Chunian dispensary were repaired. The area irrigated was 282,397 acres, or 54,564 acres less than in the previous year, due to the lowness of the river both in the beginning and end of the season. The revenue collected was Rs. 6,19,445.

Sidhnai Canal.

147. The net profit was Rs. 4,21,752, equivalent to 31·72 per cent. on the capital expenditure. Two lakhs, fifty-one thousands, four hundred and sixty-one acres were irrigated. A short supply till early in June and floods in August affected the working of the canal injuriously.

Indus Inundation Canals.

148. Three lakhs, ten thousands, six hundred and five acres were irrigated,—a better result than last year, due to the fact that the Gamun, Nur Dhundi and Dhundi Kutab canals remained in flow throughout the rabi season. There was a net loss of Rs. 2,45,854 on the year's working. An increasing tendency to cultivate rice on this canal is noticeable, but this leads to deterioration of the soil, and may have to be discouraged.

Upper Chenab Canal.

149. The year under report was one of sustained progress, and at the end of it the completion of the Main Line Upper and Main Line Lower earth-work and works was well within sight. The question of dealing with the Deg drainage was tackled in earnest during the year, and after several consultations with the Inspector-General of Irrigation it was ultimately decided that a

diversion channel to turn the entire drainage waters into the Ravi was the proper method of dealing with the question. The total outlay on the canal was Rs. 43,61,038.

Upper Jhelum Canal.

150. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 47,63,296. This circle consisted of six divisions during the year. One thousand, one hundred and twenty-six lakhs of earthwork were excavated on the main line of the canal. The average labour attendance was 8,102 men and 2,510 animals. Prolonged rain in March 1911 dispersed the fine labour force of February prematurely. The large increase of 333 lakhs of earthwork as compared with last year was mainly due to the use of tramway wagons and engines. As soon as canal banks were completed the long slopes were grassed and plantations started on completed spoil banks.

Lower Bari Doab Canal.

151. Very good progress was made on the level crossing, though the design was only finally approved in January 1911. The most difficult part of the work has been completed, *viz.*, that below spring level, and if the supply of stone keeps steady the crossing should be practically completed by March 1912. One hundred and seventy-five lakhs of earthworks were excavated in the 1st Division, 2,067 lakhs in the 2nd and 421 lakhs in the 3rd. The capital outlay, direct and indirect, on the canal during the year was Rs. 33 lakhs.

Project Circle.

152. All the surveys required for the preliminary report on the Sutlej Canals Project were completed by the close of 1909-10, and the Executive Engineer completed his report with its accompanying maps and diagrams in November 1910.

Minor Irrigation Works.

153. The Shahpur (Imperial) Canals earned the large profit of 26·46 per cent. The Ghaggar Canals, however, worked at a loss of Rs. 26,612. A profit of Rs. 2,39,641 was obtained from the Lower Sutlej Inundation Canals. The river was very low, and the canals could not be opened till the end of May.

The Chenab Inundation Canals showed a net revenue of Rs. 2,71,416. The canals opened late, but continued flowing longer than usual. The irrigated area on the Muzaffargarh Inundation Canal went up by 50,000 acres, and a profit of 2 lakhs was obtained. The net gain in the Shahpur (Provincial) Canal amounted to Rs. 7,067 and on the Ravi Inundation Canal to Rs. 4,025. The Rangoi Canal was worked at a small loss. It will be handed over to the District Board of Hissar as soon as the maintenance of 1911 has been carried out.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

(*a*)—Departmental Reports.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1910.

Canal Revenue.—Administration Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the year 1910-11.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1910-11.

Stamps.—Note on the Stamp Statements of the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

Income Tax.—Report on the Income Tax Administration of the Punjab during the year 1910-11.

Forests.—Punjab Forest Administration Report for 1910-11.

Local Funds.—District Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1910-11.

(*b*)—Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*), Finance and Revenue.]

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

General.

154. In the following statements for the year ending March 31st, 1911, the income and expenditure of the Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, military expenditure and capital expenditure on canals are omitted.

Revenue.

155. The revenue raised in the province during 1910-11 is made up as follows, last year's figures being quoted for comparison :—

Sources of revenue.	1909-10.	1910-11.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Land Revenue	2,83·26	2,67·00
Irrigation (including land revenue due to canals)	2,47·30	2,43·55
Salt	35·92	35·91
Stamps	48·91	48·92
Excise	43·23	56·95
Income Tax	14·58	15·60
Forests	10·33	12·18
Registration	3·22	3·00
Tributes	3·77	2·77
Interest	4·01	3·22
Law and Justice—Courts	4·06	4·35
Law and Justice—Jails	2·54	2·82
Police	5·69	5·81
Education	4·68	3·72
Civil Works	4·95	5·74
All other items	20·06	20·01
Total Receipts	7,36·51	7,31·55

Expenditure.

156. The expenditure excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, and capital expenditure on canals, amounted to Rs. 4,36·01 lakhs in 1910-11. The detailed items, with corresponding figures for the previous year, are given below :—

Departments.	1909-10.	1910-11.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Irrigation	89·80	1,04·82
Public Works	55·71	55·43
Revenue	47·49	46·41
Police	53·50	56·47
Law and Justice—Courts	38·07	40·94
Law and Justice—Jails	11·06	11·08
Medical	13·33	14·15
Education	22·61	22·84
General Administration	13·31	14·33
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	16·83	17·68
Forests	6·68	7·39
Political	6·48	6·14
Stationery and Printing	7·36	7·55
Scientific and other Minor Departments	7·74	7·78
Salt	4·34	4·48
All other items	17·63	18·52
Total Expenditure	4,11·94	4,36·01

Abstract of income and expenditure.

157. The following is an abstract of the gross income and expenditure for 1910-11 as recorded in the books of the Accountant-General, Punjab :—

	Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	Lakhs of rupees.			*Lakhs of rupees.*		
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.
Revenue and Expenditure	3,06·67	3,88·97	6,95·64	82·82	3,48·71	4,31·53
Debt and remittance heads	...	...	38,05·13	...	...	40,64·29
Total	...	...	45,00·77	...	...	44,95·82
Opening balance	...	...	92·79	...	...	97·74
Grand Total	...	...	45,93·56	...	...	45,93·56

37. Land Revenue.

158. The land revenue collections for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1910 have been reviewed in Chapter II. Including collections on account of previous years, they amounted to Rs. 2,29,94,908 fixed, Rs. 56,17,711 fluctuating, and Rs. 18,90,872 miscellaneous land revenue; total Rs. 3,05,03,491.

38. Irrigation.

159. The total capital invested up to the end of 1910-11 on canals in operation classed as Productive Major Works was Rs. 11,43,31,721. The amount of capital expenditure on such works during the year was Rs. 10,12,948, and the income from all sources obtained from them Rs. 2,34,17,673. Working expenses came to Rs. 78,02,291. The excess revenue came to Rs. 1,56,15,382, or 13·66 per cent. on the capital outlay, and the net profit, after paying interest, to Rs. 1,19,07,030 as compared with Rs. 1,08,18,317 in 1909-10. On Productive Major Works under construction the capital outlay to the end of the year was Rs. 5,06,51,020. No expenditure under Capital was incurred on Imperial Canals, Minor Works, not classed as productive, the net profit on which came to Rs. 7,45,997. The high level of agricultural prosperity to which these figures testify was therefore fully maintained.

39. Opium and Excise Revenue.

General.

160. The year 1910-11 is chiefly remarkable for the great increase in Excise receipts. The income from Excise amounted to 57 lakhs as compared with 43¼ lakhs in 1909-10, and 47½ lakhs in 1908-09, which last was the highest figure on record previous to the year under report. Expenditure has risen from Rs. 1,21,061 to rather over two lakhs. The amount of revenue now derived from Excise is particularly noteworthy when it is remembered that nine years ago the income under this head amounted to only 25 lakhs. The year 1910-11 is also marked by important changes in the administration of the Excise Department. The appointment of Excise Commissioner has been abolished and the management of the department has been taken over by the Financial Commissioners. Experience has been gained of the working of the subordinate Excise staff, which was reorganised at the end of 1909-10. No other changes of any considerable importance have taken place, but the year has been one of vigorous work directed towards the elaboration of details for the consolidation of the various reforms in Excise policy which have been inaugurated during the past few years.

Liquor.

161. The increase in the total income is mainly accounted for by higher receipts from the still-head duty, and vend fees on country liquor. The income from the former rose from 17½ to 23½ lakhs and from the latter from a little under 7 lakhs to 12¼ lakhs. From a fiscal point of view the results are satisfactory and are doubtless due in part to better supervision. At the same time there can be no doubt that the chief cause of the growth of income is the increase of consumption and the spread of the liquor habit. The receipts from vend fees are particularly significant, amounting as they do to nearly as much as in 1908-09, when the enormous increase in license fees was stated to be due to speculative bidding by liquor contractors who hoped to recoup themselves by the familiar devices of dilution and short measure. The fees paid in 1910-11, however, cannot be said to rest on an unsound basis. The restrictions of the new licensing rules must now be thoroughly understood, and with the appointment of a strengthened preventive establishment contractors cannot expect to make such large profits from malpractices. It can only be concluded that, apart from the very serious increase of drunkenness in certain districts, such as Ferozepore, the number of persons who have acquired the habit of indulgence in alcohol, is steadily increasing throughout the province. Measures are being taken to combat the growth of the drink habit in the districts where drinking to excess and the evils resulting from it are particularly

prevalent, and the number of shops is being steadily reduced where this is practicable. The question of the general increase of consumption, however, demands the close attention of Government officers, and too much importance cannot be attached to the necessity of collecting the fullest information possible regarding the spread of the use of alcohol, the causes underlying it and any restrictive measures which seem likely to be effective. At the same time no action on the part of Government will be successful unless supported by public opinion operating to maintain the former customary restrictions on excessive indulgence.

The increase in the consumption of 'spiced' or 'special' spirit, 55,406 gallons of which were excised during the year, has engaged the particular attention of Government, and the Lieutenant-Governor has suggested that special measures should be taken to prevent this class of spirit being fraudulently sold as foreign spirit. In so far as the cheaper brands of the latter are deleterious a decrease in their consumption is not a matter for regret; at the same time the increase in the consumption of country spirit is *primâ facie* a sound reason for a further increase in the still-head duty, and the question of its enhancement is under consideration.

Considerable improvements have been effected in the distilleries of the province. The working arrangements are satisfactory, the outturn is adequate and of good quality, as is indicated by the fact that the imports from the Rosa distillery continue to decrease, and the supervision of the Distillery Excise staff is commended by Mr. Gibb, the distillery expert.

Opium.

162. The issues of Excise opium from treasuries amounted to 48,984 seers against 36,944 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the exhaustion of the stocks of opium grown in the Punjab plains. There is reason to believe that Excise opium is smuggled from the Punjab to Bengal and Burma, but the prohibition of the boiling of opium before sale, which has been introduced from the 1st April 1911, should have a deterrent effect.

The duty, or rather the issue price, of Excise opium has been raised from the 1st April 1911 from Rs. 17 to Rs. 20 in the districts bordering on the United Provinces and to Rs. 18 in the rest of the province. For several reasons a further advance is desirable, for the Punjab rate is even now lower than the rate in the Jumna districts of the United Provinces, where the issue price is Rs. 22 per seer, and considerably lower than in Sind—Rs. 27 per seer. The nearer the duty in the Punjab approximates to those of surrounding provinces the less risk of smuggling.

The number of persons per retail opium license shows a decrease not altogether due to the decline in population. The number of retail shops for the sale of raw opium has been reduced, but there has been an increase in the number of retail licenses for the retail sale of opium for Medical purposes.

Hemp drugs and cocaine.

163. Transactions in *charas* have to a certain extent been disorganised in consequence of the prevailing uncertainty as to the attitude of the Chinese authorities in the New Dominion. The prohibition of cultivation has not actually been enforced, and receipts on account of *charas* and *bhang* show an increase on those of the previous year. So far efforts to put an end to the illicit cocaine trade which flourishes in Delhi have been unsuccessful, and the situation calls for renewed energy on the part of the Police and Excise staff, and probably for a material strengthening of the law and for action in the countries which now are mainly concerned in this most dangerous traffic.

40. Salt Revenue.

164. The gross revenue of the Northern India Salt Department realized in the Punjab amounted to Rs. 35,91,707 or Rs. 697 less than in 1909-10. The average retail price of salt per maund in the province increased by $\frac{1}{6}$ anna.

In the Cis-Indus and Kalabagh Mines Division the price of salt was raised at Khewrah from 1 anna to 1 anna 1 pie and at Nurpur, Warcha and Kalabagh from 9 pies to 10 pies per maund with effect from 1st July 1910. This slight increase, which has not affected the trade, was necessary to balance the small loss on excavation and storage.

The sales in this division amounted to maunds 3,300,096, and the issues to maunds 3,295,563, or 1·13 per cent. less than last year. Some difficulty was experienced in procuring labour for the Warthganj depôt in September and October. The mines were fortunately free from plague.

The sales from the Mandi mines—maunds 96,695—were 4·59 per cent. less than last year. The sales of Sultánpuri salt also exhibit a decrease, and amounted to maunds 22,868. The bulk of this was despatched to the United Provinces.

Some 70 maunds of salt produced at the saltpetre refinery at Rájgarh in the Patiála State were seized at various places in the United Provinces, and confiscated. Suitable steps have been taken by the Darbar to prevent the export of such salt to British territory.

41. Stamp Revenue.

165. Viewed in the light of the steady growth of income which characterised the preceding triennium, the further improvement in receipts under the Court Fees and Stamp Acts during the years 1908—1911 is highly satisfactory. The receipts from stamps, which in 1905-06 amounted to 37½ lakhs, rose to 41 lakhs in 1907-08 and to 45 lakhs in the first year of the period now under report. Excluding the compensatory assignment of Rs. 1,85,000, which represents the receipts formerly credited in the province on account of the sale of revenue stamps, there was a further advance of 2 lakhs in the income of 1909-10. No further increase was recorded for 1910-11, but the halt is probably only temporary. In this connection the increase from receipts in non-judicial stamps, which amounted in 1910-11 to Rs. 16,84,000, is particularly satisfactory. Fluctuations must be expected from time to time, but on the whole the rate of progress has been steadily maintained. The increased business done in bills of exchange, special adhesive stamps, foreign bill stamps and cheque stamps is noticeable. The figures reflect the recent period of prosperity and are an index of developments which cannot fail to be of benefit to the province.

Owing to the abolition of the appointment of the Excise Commissioner in October 1910, the office of the Superintendent of Stamps has been merged in that of the Financial Commissioners, and the duty of inspecting Stamp Depôts, Record Rooms and the registers of stamp vendors has been transferred to Commissioners and their Personal Assistants. The altered system will permit of more regular and frequent inspections, and it is to be hoped that the advantages of this measure of decentralization will be fully developed.

42. Assessed Taxes.

166. In view of the present industrial and commercial activity, and of the undoubted increase in wealth due to other than agricultural pursuits, the statistics for the past three years can only be regarded as disappointing. It was not until the last year of the triennium that receipts from income-tax reached the amount realized in 1902-03, in which year incomes of under Rs. 1,000 were still liable to taxation. Gross collections in 1910-11 amounted to Rs. 14,66,000, an increase of somewhat less than 8 per cent. on the figures for 1907-08. These results may partly be accounted for by the fact that the tax on what are perhaps the largest incomes earned in the Punjab is paid in other provinces. Government has directed that special inquiries be made into

the matter. Apart from the above, there are grounds for ascribing the unsatisfactory results in part to defective methods of assessment, and the question of carrying out special assessments in cases where there are reasons for believing that the loss of income to Government is serious, merits attention. Special inquiries might be made in the first instance in Lahore, Multán and Lyallpur. In other respects also the work of the income-tax department appears to be far from efficient. Delays occur in the framing of assessments and in the disposal of objections, which result in the first place in unnecessary inconvenience to assessees and are also responsible for the heavy accumulations of arrears, amounting to Rs. 41,000 at the close of 1910-11.

43. Forest Revenue.

167. The financial results as shown in the report are considerably better than they were last year. The total revenue was Rs. 15,22,000 as against Rs. 9,75,000 in 1909-10. The Conservator explains that this year's receipts include a sum of Rs. 1,26,500 which belongs to the income of 1909-10. However the increase as shown by the Conservator is Rs. 2,93,000 which is substantial and satisfactory. The Kángra division now shows a small surplus as against a deficit last year. The decrease of Rs. 1,09,000 under timber removed by Government agency is also satisfactory as showing that the surplus stock is being sold off. An increase of Rs. 35,000 in the sale of fuel from Chánga Mánga is reported. This should be an increasing head of revenue, now that the difficulties of marketing the produce have been successfully met. The rapid and spontaneous growth of the mulberry is a very satisfactory feature of the irrigated plantations here and at Lahore, as it insures a large supply of fuel and offers possibilities of sericulture.

The increase in expenditure is Rs. 70,480, most of which was due to the unfortunate Patriata ropeway, and a good deal of the excess should really be charged as capital expenditure. The actual cash surplus is returned by the Conservator as Rs. 7,73,000 which he reduces to Rs. 6,57,000 on account of adjustments. This compares favourably with Rs. 4,23,000 and Rs. 4,92,000, the Conservator's figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09, respectively. Proposals are on foot for revising the accounts system of the Forest Department, and if these proposals could be made to include the abolition of the so-called forest year which begins on the 1st of July, it would be easier to obtain a clearer view of the financial working of the Department. Some improved method of arranging the figures is certainly demanded.

44. Provincial Revenue.

168. The income and expenditure under the Provincial section of accounts during the past year have been as follows :—

Year.	Opening balance.	Income.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1908-09	30,51,002	3,23,02,486	3,38,79,468	14,74,020
1909-10	*14,75,298	3,52,15,061	3,39,14,502	27,75,857
1910-11	27,75,857	3,91,12,487	3,49,13,367	69,74,977

*NOTE.—The opening balance for 1909-10 includes Rs. 1,278 on account of Copying Agency Fund provincialised during 1908-09.

The closing balance of the year 1910-11 included 8½ lakhs out of the Imperial contributions towards the extension and improvement of Simla, as also 10 lakhs towards the King Edward Memorial in the Punjab, 10 lakhs for sanitation and the Central Research Institute, and 9 lakhs for education.

The special features in the accounts of the year 1910-11 were (1) the purchase by capitalist and yeoman grantees of proprietary rights in the canal colonies, (2) the amalgamation of the owner's rate on the Western Jumna Canal with the occupier's rate, (3) the automatic imposition of owner's rate in certain circles in the Chenab Colony, (4) the abolition of the appointments of Settlement Commissioner and Excise Commissioner and the creation of a second Financial Commissionership, (5) the reorganization of the subordinate executive staff of jails, and (6) the transfer of all new and existing feeder roads to District Boards with an annual maintenance grant of 4 lakhs.

The revenue classed as Provincial consists of certain receipts, either wholly or partly allotted to Provincial uses, the principal heads of which have been discussed above.

45. Local Funds.

169. The gross income of the District Boards for the year was Rs. 51,87,000 as against Rs. 53,47,000 in 1909-10, and their total expenditure Rs. 49,35,000 compared with Rs. 53,97,000. The local rate was raised in Dera Gházi Khan and in Ambála, after the close of the year under report. It is still well below the maximum in most districts, and in view of the growing needs of the boards and in particular of the claims of primary education, an enhancement of the rate in some districts might be considered.

Receipts under the head of Education are rising steadily. The most marked rise is in fees received from middle schools. Expenditure on education rose from Rs. 9,80,000 to Rs. 10,14,000. Medical receipts dropped from Rs. 1,80,000 to Rs. 1,20,000. Expenditure under this head also fell from Rs. 6,34,000 to Rs. 6,05,000. The abandonment of the attempt to exterminate rats generally led to a decrease of Rs. 25,000 under plague charges. The outlay on communications shows an enormous decrease from Rs. 10,29,000 to Rs. 6,62,000. It is to be hoped that Commissioners, with whom lies the distribution of the grant of Rs. 4,00,000 from provincial funds given for the maintenance of roads handed over to the boards, will see that it is fully expended on the objects for which it was allotted.

Balances fell below the prescribed minimum in Jullundur, Siálkot and Gujrát; surplus balances were high in Rohtak, Lyallpur, Karnál, Multán and Gurgaon. Recent orders have relieved the boards of the necessity of maintaining special reserve balances except in districts where the income of the boards is specially liable to fluctuation.

46. Municipal Funds.

170. The aggregate income of the municipalities in the province rose from Rs. 59,90,000 in 1909-10 to Rs. 63,93,000 in 1910-11. The increase was chiefly due to octroi. Payments rose from Rs. 58,56,000 to Rs. 63,85,000. Closing balances stood at Rs. 16,27,000 in 1909-10 and at Rs. 16,24,000 in 1910-11. Every fund opened and closed with a credit balance, but various towns came perilously near a deficit. Ráhon (Jullundur) with an income of Rs. 12,000 closed with a balance of Rs. 501. Hazro (Attock) with an income of Rs. 22,000 closed with a balance of Rs. 1,191. Among the notified areas Hidáyatpur (Gurgaon) with an income of Rs. 1,700 closed with a balance of Rs. 58. On the whole, however, the accounts of the municipalities show a decided improvement, and acknowledgments are due to the Local Fund auditors whose careful

inspections are in the main responsible for this. It is gratifying to notice the auditors' remarks that in Rámdás (Amritsar) and Fatehgarh (Gurdáspur) the accounts are well kept and personally supervised by members of the committees. At the same time the careless way in which the annual returns are submitted to Government is regrettable. Almost every statement has to be returned for corrections. A little more care in preparation and an adequate check in the Deputy Commissioner's office would obviate the necessity for these troublesome references.

The loan statement is almost blank. The Delhi municipal committee drew the first instalment of the loan of three lakhs which has been sanctioned for the extra-mural drainage scheme.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Census.—Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier, 1901, by H. A. Rose, I.C.S.

Births and Deaths.— } Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Pro-
Sanitation.— } ceedings of the Sanitary Board for the year 1910.

Emigration.—Census Report, as above.

Medical Relief.—
- Notes on the Annual Statements of the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the Punjab for the year 1910.
- Report of the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, for the year 1910.
- Report on the working of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the year 1910.
- Report of the Chemical Examiner to Government, Punjab, for the year 1910.

Vaccination.—Notes on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1910-11.

And in Statistics of British India, Part V.]

47. Details of Census.

171. A census was taken on the night of the 10th March, the results of which show the population of the Punjab to be 24,187,750 Of this total British districts account for 19,974,956 and Native States 4,212,794. The corresponding figures for the previous census were 24,754,735 ; 20,330,337 ; and 4,424,398 respectively. There has thus been a decrease in the population of the whole of the Punjab of 566,985 or 2·3 per cent., in the British districts of 355,381, or 1·7 per cent., and in the Native States of 211,604, or 4·8 per cent.

In the ordinary course a large growth of population might have been expected. Though in the first two years of the decade the harvests were distinctly poor, more particularly in the Delhi division, in 1904-05 a cycle of good years began, and has so far only been interrupted by one unfavourable season, in 1907-08. There has been a large extension of irrigation, mainly in the canal colonies, and the length of canals and distributaries has increased by 618 miles. Cultivation has also extended largely in the dry south-western districts. Prices of food grains and cotton have risen, and with the exception of short slack periods, trade was generally brisk throughout the decade. The means of communication have been greatly improved, and, to take one item alone, 1,019 miles have been added to the railways of the province.

On the other hand the state of the public health was lamentable. Leaving aside the ravages of famine during the first two years of the decade, the period was marked with losses from epidemics quite outweighing the gains due to the favourable conditions recited above, in so much that the deaths during the decade outnumbered the births by over 550,000. Malarial fever accounted for 4,503,924 deaths and plague for 1,980,964. Plague was present throughout the period, but nearly two-thirds of the deaths due to it occurred in 1907. Malaria was worst in 1908 and in the first three years of the decade. The disastrous earthquake of 1905 caused a loss of about 24,000 lives in the Kangra district alone.

A more detailed account of the census will appear in the report for next year, which is a decennial one ; for the census of 1901 reference should be made to pages 153—160 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.

48. Births and Deaths.

Birth and death rates.

172. The most noticeable features in the vital statistics of the year 1910 are the high birth-rate 42·7 *per mille*, the low death-rate 33·3, the exceptionally low fever mortality 17·1, the considerable excess of births over deaths 9·4, and, in contrast to all these favourable features, the rise in the mortality from plague, the death-rate from which was 6·7. These points serve to indicate the general healthiness of the year under report,—a healthiness marred only by the recrudescence of plague. The birth-rate is higher by 7·6 than that of 1909 and by 1·6 than the mean of the previous five years. The rise in the birth-rate is the natural sequence of the healthiness of the previous year and of that under report, and it represents the recovery of the people from the malaria epidemic of 1908 and from the scarcity of that and other recent years. The number of deaths registered in 1910 was 669,239, the resulting death-rate being 33·28 *per mille*. The death-rate of 1909 was 30·89, and the mean of the previous five years 45·64. It will be seen that while the death-rate of 1910 is 2·39 above that of the previous year, it is 12·36 below the quinquennial mean. Of this death-rate a little more than half (17·10) was caused by "fevers" and one-fifth (6·74) by plague.

Cholera.

173. Cholera was more widespread in 1910 than in 1909. Twenty-three districts were affected, including 47 towns and 305 villages. Once more Hardwár is reported to be the chief source of infection, and the improvement in the sanitation of Hardwár to which last year's report looked forward is, it seems, not yet complete. It is gratifying to notice that the prompt measures adopted by district officers did much to stop the spread of the disease. In all there were 2,131 deaths from cholera, of which 624 occurred in the Jullundur district.

Small-pox.

174. Once more the mortality from small-pox is the smallest on record, 0·15 *per mille*. Last year it was noticed that the death-rate from small-pox in rural circles was greater than in towns; this year it is the reverse, which is usually the case.

Plague.

175. The number of deaths from plague during 1910 amounted to 169,867. It is discouraging to note that after 13 years the scourge still rages so widely and that the mortality returns at the end of the year presaged still another visitation of considerable severity. The plague committee, however, which met in Simla in 1910 held it to be clearly established that plague preventive measures have been the means of saving a vast amount of life.

The principal measures on which reliance is now placed are inoculation, evacuation and rat destruction. The itinerations of the special staff of Plague Medical Officers are evidence to the people, even in the most remote villages, of the earnest desire of Government to assist them. For some years it has been the policy to supply every Medical Officer with portable medical and surgical equipment and a large amount of medical aid is by this means distributed throughout the province. The increase in the number of inoculations is satisfactory, and we have now quite a large staff of educated helpers chosen from the leaders of the people whose services have proved most useful.

Malaria.

176. The comparative freedom of the Punjab from malaria during 1910 has already been noticed. Infants under one year and old people above 60 are once more the principal victims. The low rate in the four large towns of Delhi, Lahore, Amritsar and Multán is gratifying, and it is especially matter for congratulation that the lowest rate of all—14·52—should obtain in Amritsar. The creation of a new post of Chief Malaria Officer marks another stage in the campaign against disease.

(See pages 153-60 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.)

49. Emigration and Immigration.

(There is nothing to report under this heading.)

50. Medical Relief.

177. The report for this year covers the triennial period 1908—1910. General.

One of the important features of 1908 was the severe epidemic of malaria throughout the province, particularly during the last quarter of the year. The years 1909 and 1910 were, on the whole, healthier, 1910 being distinctly more so than 1909 owing to the two great scourges of the autumn—malaria and dysentery—being less prevalent than usual. As a consequence, not only these diseases themselves, but affections consequent upon them, show a lessened incidence in the year's returns.

One of the results of the Imperial Malaria Conference of 1909 has been the appointment as Chief Malaria Medical Officer, Punjab, of Lieutenant-Colonel Adie, who has already collected much useful information.

The quinine distributing agency attached to the Inspector-General's office, and also the district quinine societies, first established in Gurdáspur, have done much good work.

The system introduced this year of recovering fees from patients who can afford to pay them is so clearly equitable that any temporary decrease of patients caused thereby, even if such has occurred, which is doubtful, may be accepted with equanimity.

It is satisfactory to record that the scheme for improving the rates of pay of Sub-Assistant Surgeons was pushed through this year.

A new scheme was started during the year of throwing open the canal dispensaries in the districts of Ludhiána, Rohtak, Karnál and Lyallpur to the general public, the local bodies concerned contributing towards the extra cost involved. As time goes on, similar action will no doubt be taken in the case of all canal dispensaries, as the local bodies must sooner or later recognise the immense amount of benefit that will accrue to the public by this measure.

178. The results of the treatment afforded in the in-patient department in 1910 are most satisfactory. Out of the 75,202 patients admitted, 52,934 were discharged cured, and 12,996 relieved. The number discharged otherwise was 6,373. In the out-door department there has been a slight falling off in attendance during the triennium. In 1908 the number stood at 4,510,157, then fell to 4,433,816 in 1909 and in 1910 they only reached 4,222,251. Patient.

179. The total income of dispensaries amounted to Rs. 10,89,287 in 1910. Of this amount local bodies contributed Rs. 7,65,388. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 10,83,250. Income and Expenditure.

180. The number of persons treated during 1910 was 2,073, an increase of 136 over the figures of 1909. In addition 328 persons attended for advice, but did not undergo the treatment. The percentage of failures fell to 0·19, which is lower than it has been in any previous year. A sum of over Rs. 34,000 was received during the year in aid of the extension scheme. Waiting rooms, quarters for indigent patients, extensions to the laboratory and dog houses have been constructed. The Grange and Hardwick estates have been acquired, and accommodation for Indian noblemen, and for Indians of the middle class will be constructed on these sites. Pasteur Institute.

181. The daily average strength shows a small decline and stood at 631·89 in the year 1910. The year was an unhealthy one, there being a daily average of sick of 93·86 as against 75·01 in the previous year. The better arrangements rendered possible by the opening of the new hospital have, however, already effected an improvement in the general health of the inmates. Lunatic Asylum.

It is to be regretted that so far the efforts to secure the services of the members of some religious body for the male portion of the asylum have proved unsuccessful. Possibly when the large Salvation Army Industrial School for members of the criminal tribes is in full swing, some work for the more harmless lunatics may be found there.

Chemical Examiner.

182. The work of the Chemical Examiner's laboratory continues to expand. The number of cases rose from 1,528 to 1,632, and the number of articles examined from 4,149 to 4,405. Human poisoning cases rose from 466 to 523, but the use of arsenic continues to decrease owing to the more efficient administration of the Poisons Act and also because the people are beginning to learn that arsenic is one of the easiest detected poisons. On the other hand, the use of opium as a poison is increasing. The number of cases in which no indication of the poison suspected was given rose from 110 to 166. Such cases require careful consideration by the Police and Magistrates with a view to checking unnecessary references. Cattle poisoning cases decreased from 170 to 106. The majority of cases come from the Lahore and Ráwalpindi divisions, Ráwalpindi, Amritsar and Lahore heading the list in the order named. It is also noticeable that Amritsar, Ferozepore and Lahore are the three worst districts for human poisoning.

King Edward Memorial, Punjab.

183. At a public meeting held at Lahore in July 1910 it was formally decided that the Punjab Memorial to the late King Edward should take the form of a great central institution for medical relief and instruction, that a new and enlarged Medical College should be built, and the attached hospitals—the Mayo, the Albert Victor, and the Lady Aitchison—should be expanded and improved. This project, propounded by the Lieutenant-Governor, in consultation with the leaders of the various communities, was accepted with enthusiasm throughout the province, and the subscriptions have reached the unprecedented total of over 15 lakhs of rupees, to which the Government of India has added a contribution of 10 lakhs. A Provincial Committee was appointed to carry out the scheme with the Hon'ble Sir Arthur H. S. Reid, Kt., Chief Judge, Punjab, as President. An Executive Committee, thoroughly representative of the different communities and of the principal subscribers to the Memorial, was appointed by the Provincial Committee with full power to work out the details of the scheme. Major D. W. Sutherland, I.M S., Principal, Medical College, Lahore, prepared a scheme which was considered at several meetings of the Executive Committee and of the Sub-Committees. This scheme, with certain modifications, was passed by the end of the year under report.

The following is a summary of Major Sutherland's scheme:—

		Estimated cost.
		Rs.
1.	Anatomy Department Extensions	6,000
2.	Materia Medica Department alterations	5,000
3.	Cold Storage and P. M. Block	35,000
4.	Research Institute	2,57,418
5.	New Medical College	2,12,286
6.	New House Surgeons' and servants' quarters ...	1,00,000
7.	New Nurses' Home	1,00,000
8.	Mayo Hospital Extension	5,86.914
9.	Albert Victor Hospital Extension	56,518
10.	Students' Hostel	1,50,000
	Total ...	15,09,136
	Services	3,00,000
	Equipment for college and hospitals	1,00,000
	Total ...	19,09,136
	Cost of land acquisition, say	5,48,000
	Total ...	24,57,136

The Executive Committee recommended that a large block of family and private wards for Indians be built. This was incorporated in the scheme, and

accordingly it may not be possible to include a Students' Hostel in the scheme, but much depends on the cost of land acquisition. Under the advice of the Lieutenant-Governor the Committee proceeded with caution in the matter of acquiring sites, especially as it was hoped that the Veterinary College site would be made available for Memorial buildings; but in February the site of the present beef market and surrounding properties was acquired for Rs. 1,41,660, and three other properties to the west of the Hospitals were notified in the *Punjab Gazette* of 15th March 1911. By the end of the year under report contributious amounting to Rs. 13,88,354-6-0 had been promised, out of which Rs. 8,03,340-0-11 had been collected. Of this amount Rs. 1,41,660 had been paid out for land acquisition, while Rs. 6,50,000 was in fixed deposit with the Bank of Bengal, Lahore, bearing interest at 3½ per cent.

51. Sanitation.

184. The constitution of the Sanitary Board was the same as in recent years until towards the end of the year, when the 2nd Financial Commissioner was appointed President in place of the 1st as formerly. Sanitary Board.

The principal allotments made during the year comprised Rs. 21,000 for the acquisition of *dhabs* at Amritsar, Rs. 17,700 for the Lyallpur Agricultural College, Rs. 10,000 for the combined municipal and cantonment water-supply at Dharmsála. Of the grant of one lakh-and-a-half at the disposal of the Board, a balance of Rs. 1,22,789 remained unexpended on December 31st, 1910.

185. The work of constructing the water-supply reservoir on the mound near the Ferozepore Road at Lahore has been completed and the new main laid on the roads commanded by it. Progress was made with the sullage disposal works at Amritsar. The suburban drainage works at Delhi have advanced considerably. It is now proposed to let the storm water run into the river instead of the Bela. The Multán drainage works were completed. The experiment of sinking tubes at the Handesara head works (Ambála) promise the requisite increase in the water-supply. Work on the intra-mural drainage scheme for Gujrát is in progress. A rough project is under preparation for furnishing the Siálkot municipality with an independent water-supply. In order to save the heavy cost of compensation for land on the catchment area of the new Simla water works, a scheme for efficient filtration in addition to the rough filtration at the head works has been approved. Sanitary works.

The question of rewards for improved village sanitation is a subject not yet fully appreciated by village communities, and is dependent largely upon the exertions of Deputy Commissioners and Civil Surgeons. Year after year it is noticed that not much was done by village communities to improve the sanitation of their villages, and, though prizes were offered, they could not be awarded as they had not been earned. Among the difficulties in the way are the want of organization in villages and the customary right of agriculturists to collect manure upon common land in which the village wells are ordinarily situated.

52. Vaccination.

186. The report for the year is for the period 1908-09 to 1910-11. The total number of primary vaccinations fell from 1,828,774 in the previous triennium to 1,677,392. The effects of malaria and plague are clearly traceable in the low figures in 1908-09 and 1909-10, but the recovery in the last year of the period when they amounted to 632,094 is a satisfactory sign, showing an increase in the birth-rate due to more healthy conditions and increased prosperity and showing that the staff responded to the altered circumstances.

Revaccinations amounted to 416,349 as compared with 332,967 in the previous three years. This is gratifying in view of the reluctance of uneducated people to submit to this useful operation, which they fear they may

incapacitate them from their ordinary labour for a time. The suspicion that revaccination may be plague inoculation in disguise accounts to a certain extent for this reluctance.

The aggregate cost of the department amounted to Rs. 1,21,076, or practically the same as last year. The cost of each successful vaccination was two annas and ten pies.

The experiment of house-to-house vaccination continues, but seems to be in many places unpopular. There may be a future before it in towns and large villages where the circumstances are favourable, but further experience is needed before any definite conclusion can be arrived at. The system saves the people time and trouble, but is not so efficient from the point of view of economising the time of the vaccinator, and it is understood that a very general objection exists on the part of the people to the visiting of their houses by the vaccinators.

The attention paid to vaccination by the Native States has been satisfactory : the high standard attained in Patiala may be specially commended.

The work of the Vaccine Institute has been on the whole satisfactory, and a scheme for its improvement has been drawn up and is under the consideration of Government. It is hoped that when the accommodation has been improved the quality of the lymph prepared will also be more satisfactory in its strength and keeping qualities.

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CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

[For detailed information see the Punjab Education Report for 1910-11 and Statistics of British India, Part VII—Educational.]

53. General System of Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 616-35 of the report of 1901-02.)

54. Education.

General statistics.

187. There was a decrease of eight in the number of public institutions, which amounted in all to 4,343. The private institutions in existence were 2,935 in number, or 53 more than last year.

Including schools of all kinds the percentage of scholars to the estimated population of school-going age has risen in the case of boys from 17·39 to 18·17 and in that of girls from 3·12 to 3·51.

The total educational expenditure has risen from Rs. 54,43,382 to Rs. 60,57,056. There is again a very large increase from fees, which now defray more than one quarter of the total expenditure.

Fee receipts in Government institutions alone increased by Rs. 62,184. More was spent from district funds on the maintenance of schools, but less on buildings. From municipal funds more was spent under all headings, except furniture and scholarships.

Of the amount spent from public funds on the upkeep of institutions for general education, Rs. 1,14,613 were spent on Arts Colleges, Rs. 7,72,234 on secondary schools, and Rs. 8,55,574 on primary schools. Secondary schools, however, include vernacular middle schools, which are the source of supply of primary school teachers. Indirect expenditure is more difficult to apportion, but it is clear that the bulk of the cost of inspection (Rs. 2,80,432) is incurred on account of primary schools, while in the case of buildings secondary schools have perhaps a slight advantage. In any case the expenditure, direct and indirect, on primary schools is disproportionately low.

Controlling agencies.

188. A number of district boards have reduced their expenditure on education, in some cases by substantial amounts. While any interference with the discretion of the boards in the matter of apportioning their expenditure is to be deprecated, it may perhaps be urged, in view of the importance which the question of extending elementary education is assuming, that there should be no reduction of former expenditure on this object, unless special circumstances necessitating economy have occurred.

The general cessation of activity in opening primary schools may, however, be quite simply explained. The special recurring grant made by the Government of India in 1905 is now fully utilised in the maintenance of existing schools and the cost of any further increase has to be met from the limited resources of the boards, which are also being drawn upon to provide higher pay for teachers. Until another large grant is made from imperial or provincial funds, it is to be feared that there will be little appreciable addition to the number of board primary schools.

Collegiate Education.

189. *University.*—The prinicipal change during the year was the shifting of the dates of all examinations, except the Entrance, from March to May, with a view to securing a longer cold weather session for college lecturing and making it possible for the University year to terminate at the commencement of the summer vacation.

Arts Colleges.—The number of students rose by 248 to 2,270. This was partly due to the opening of the Dyal Singh College, Lahore, in May 1910.

The year generally was one of steady development. The income from fees, it may be noted, rose by Rs. 34,236 and that from endowments by Rs. 14,852.

Secondary Schools (Boys).

190. One new high school (at Sialkot) and three middle schools have been added. The attendance again showed a large increase: in the Lahore division alone there was an increase of 2,243. Expenditure has risen generally, but the rise in fees has been more than proportionate, and less has been spent from provincial funds. Fees defrayed a percentage of the expenditure varying from 42 in Delhi to 55 in Multán. The number of trained teachers is gradually increasing; in Government schools, however, a slight decline is noticeable, which may be due to the poor prospects offered in Government service. The direct method of teaching English is gaining in favour, and more attention is being paid to science and drawing: in two cases subscriptions have been voluntarily given by the people for the purpose of instituting special science courses in Government schools.

Primary Schools (Boys).

191. Omitting the figures for European schools there was a decrease of 25 institutions, accompanied by a rise of 6,030 in the number of pupils. The poor quality of the teaching is a weak point in the schools, and an obstacle to the spread of education: parents are disinclined to send their children to school when the teacher does not command their confidence. At the present time only half of the teachers in primary schools are trained men, and the qualifications of many of the others are meagre. The number of trained teachers increased only by 47 during the year, in spite of the larger outturn from Normal Schools, so that there is apparently a leakage of teachers into other callings. The course for rural schools has gained in popularity, but *bahi khata* and accounts, which are among the special features of the course, are not well taught as yet. Some manual instruction is frequently advocated for primary schools, but apart from other considerations the lack of qualified teachers would be an obstacle to its introduction. A few school gardens are, however, kept up. General complaint is made as to the condition of the school houses, many of which are lent or rented buildings unsuitable for school purposes. In Ambála the school committees have been entrusted with the repairing of buildings, an experiment which is said to have worked well, and which might advantageously be tried elsewhere.

Training of teachers.

192. The number of students in the Central Training College—213—was the highest on record, and the examination results were excellent, except in gymnastics. It is satisfactory to note that there was a marked increase in the number of graduates in the Senior Anglo-Vernacular class, and an improvement in the qualifications of the candidates generally. Algebra and Euclid were omitted from the Normal Schools' course in order to give time for instruction in arithmetic by indigenous methods. Other changes have since been made with the view of making the instruction as simple and practical as possible.

Technical and Special Institutions.

193. The province is fortunate in possessing an exceptional variety of institutions for imparting professional or special education. Of these the Mayo School of Art, the Railway Technical School, certain institutions for clerical training, and the Engineering School are under the immediate control of the Education Department.

The Mayo School of Art, with 229 students, had a busy year, the amount of special work executed outside the ordinary school course (including the preparation of the design, canopy, &c., for the amphitheatre at the Delhi Darbar) being strong testimony to the estimation in which the school is held.

Female Education.

194. Ten new schools have been added, but in Jullundur city five branch schools have been amalgamated in a central school so that the net increase is five, while the number of scholars has risen by 1,103. The need of trained teachers for kindergarten work in the infant classes of city schools is much felt. Drawing is becoming popular. The needle work shown by the teachers trained by the Lahore Normal School was very good indeed.

European Education.

195. There has been little change in the number of schools or pupils, but the closing of the Middle Department of the Delhi Station School, following the example of the Lahore Railway School last year, is noteworthy as a sign of the tendency to send elder children to boarding schools in the hills. Among changes of system introduced during the year may be mentioned the reallotment of salary grants, an abridgment and simplification of statistical forms, and the limitation of primary scholarships to pupils of the poorer classes.

196. The number of Muhammadans under instruction shows a satisfactory increase, and the total number of Muhammadan pupils is not far short of that of Hindus. There is a marked disproportion, however, of Muhammadan students in the higher stages of education and in professional colleges. Education of Muhammadans.

55. Literature and the Press.

197. The number of publications received for registration increased largely, and amounted to 1,408 as compared with 1,191 in the previous year. The main increase is under the head of Punjabi books, of which 458 were published, or 159 more than in 1909. Five hundred and ninety-seven works were in Urdu, 107 were bi-lingual, 82 in Hindi, 80 in English. Of the total number 1,144 were original works. Literature.

Under 'Art' there are only two books, one on freehand drawing for schools and the other a pamphlet on music. A Siálkot firm has published a number of animal and plant charts for schools. As noticed last year, the printing, binding and illustrations of books are gradually improving.

Four more biographies appeared; as usual some of them are lives of saints, mostly Sufi Muhammadans. Such books, however, are going out of fashion and in their place lives of national heroes are coming into vogue. Muhammadan authors have produced lives of the friends and companions of their Prophet and those of Buali Sena, Aurangzeb, Zebunnisa, Wazir Sadulla Khan and Sir Sayad Ahmad. The Sikh heroes have their deeds chronicled in the "Punjabi Surma" and in the life of Hari Singh, Nalwa, the Marshal Ney of the Punjab in the times of Ranjit Singh. Hindu heroines are pictured by the prolific writer Babu Sheo Brat Lal—Sachchi Mataen, Hamari Mataen, Hindu Mataen, Chittor ki Ranian and Hindu heroes in such books as Mararshi Narada, Bhisham Pitamah, Goswami Tulsi Das and Ram Mohan Rai.

The number of dramas is more than double that of last year. A Rewári printer has published the well-known stories of Padmavat, Nehal Dey and Bakawali in a dramatised form. These are represented in villages on festive occasions such as Holi and Dusehra.

Novels have also very largely increased. The historical novel is well represented. The Intiqam goes back to the times of Husain, the martyr of Karbala, describing scenes of Arab life in the early caliphate. Some Punjabi novels are exclusively religious, narrating cases of conversion to Sikhism. The historical works include several summaries intended for school pupils. An Amritsar firm published two compilations relating to early Muhammadan history, one relating to the ancient Arabs and the other to three famous ministers of the Caliph Harun-ur-Rashid. Muhammadans have always evinced interest in historical research and their works testify to their continued interest. It can hardly be said that novels have improved in literary merit. The original stories compare unfavourably with the translations.

Forty-nine medical works are published, and as usual a large number of books on social reform.

The production of verse was exceptionally great, a large number dealing with the lives of popular heroes and heroines such as Hir Ranjha, Sohni Mahiwal, Sassi Punnu and Mirza Saibhan. The hymns of religious sects and songs from dramas are popular. Satires on men and manners and criticism of social and religious abuses find expression in verse. One adventurous poet turns orthography and etymology into rhyme. Poetry thus retains its hold on authors and readers although the quality of many of their effusions leaves much to be desired.

The output of books of a seditious character has been checked, while on the other hand several prose and verse pamphlets on the advantages of British rule have been published.

The number of religious works is 235 and is higher than that of any other section of literature except poetry. Religion and poetry are frequently combined and works of this nature are much appreciated in the Punjab. The new critical spirit in religion, which is dissatisfied with dogmas, is represented in such Hindu works as Qanun Karm by Pandit Bishan Das, Budh Dharm aur Hindu Dharm ka Mel, Ruhani Adarsh, &c. Sikhism is expounded in a series

of lectures in a book entitled Gurumat Sambandhi Vyakhyan and Muhammadanism in Al-khutabat-ul-Ahmadiya.

Newspapers.

198. There were 247 newspapers published during 1910. Of these 38 were published in English, 1 in English, Persian and Urdu, 178 in Urdu, 1 in Urdu-Roman, 1 in Urdu-Pashtu, 9 in Hindi, and 19 in Gurmukhi. Four English, 1 Roman-Urdu, 2 Hindi, 2 Gurmukhi and 21 Urdu newspapers were started, and 2 English, 1 Hindi, 1 Gurmukhi and 21 Urdu newspapers ceased to exist during the year, leaving a balance of 222. Three papers were published quarterly, 121 monthly, 31 twice a month, 4 three times a month, 78 weekly, 3 twice a week, 1 thrice a week and 7 daily.

Press Prosecutions and Warnings.

199. No press prosecutions were launched during 1910.

The following papers were warned during the year :—

The "Musalman," the "Hadis" and the "Hidayat" were warned for publishing articles offensive to Aryas; the "Hidayat," having continued to write objectionable articles, was subsequently called upon to furnish security under section 8 (2) of the Press Act and thereupon ceased to exist.

The Muhammadan "Mujaddad" and "Hunter" on one side and the Arya "Arjun" on the other, having indulged in scurrilous and indecent articles reflecting upon each other's community, were all warned; the "Mujaddad", having continued to write offensively, was subsequently called upon to furnish security under section 8 (2) of the Press Act, and then terminated its existence.

The "Arya Musafir" and "Parkash" were both warned for publishing writings offensive to Muhammadans.

The "Punjab Advocate" received a warning for having published a grossly exaggerated account of frontier tribal raids and other articles calculated to offend Muhammadan susceptibilities.

The keeper of the Sewak Machine Press was warned for printing a pamphlet entitled "Takarir-i-Ajit" written by Lal Chand, Falak, which was proscribed by the Punjab Government under section 12 (1) of the Indian Press Act of 1910. The proprietor of the Hindustan Press received a similar warning for having printed a pamphlet entitled "Nara-i-Haidari," which contained an attack upon the Muhammadan religion.

The keeper of the "Rajput Printing Works" was also warned for printing a document purporting to be a challenge from a sweeper to certain Muhammadan gentlemen.

56. Literary Societies.

(See report for 1901-02. The subject will not be dealt with again till 1911-12).

57. Arts and Sciences.

Lahore Museum.

Antiquities.

200. The additions to the archæological section include among other articles an inscribed stone from Harípur, Kángra district, recording the construction of stairs to a gate near Harípur by Ananta Devi, the Queen of Prakas Chand. It also gives the genealogy of the Guleria Chiefs. Some interesting banners were also obtained for the Lamaistic section; one in particular which represents Padmasambhava, who converted Tibet to Buddhism, is a masterpiece of Tibetan art. A case was started this year for the accommodation of Muhammadan antiquities. There are very few specimens at present, but it is hoped more will be secured gradually.

Art and manufactures.

201. Several purchases were made at the Allahabad exhibition. Some progress has been made with the Punjab Portrait Gallery; pictures of Raja Sarup Singh of Jind, Baba Khem Singh Bedi, Diwan Adjodya Parshad and Nawab Bahawal Khan III of Bahawalpur have been added as well as portraits of six of the most famous Mughal Emperors. A rearrangement has been carried out of the musical instruments.

Raw product section.

202. The specimens of woods have been labelled and arranged as have those of the Punjab cottons, oils and oilseeds, rices, pulses, fibres, &c.

Natural history.

203. A large number of new birds have been added and an attempt made to show some of the birds in such a way as to show their natural habits.

Finance.

204. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 11,787 as compared with Rs. 14,918 in 1909-10.

CHAPTER VIII.
ARCHÆOLOGY.

[Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the following publications :—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for 1910-11 ; Annual Progress Report of the Superintendent of the Archæological Survey, Northern Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1911.]

58. Archæology.

Hindu and Buddhist monuments.

205. The total expenditure incurred during the year on the preservation of the Hindu and Buddhist monuments was Rs. 687-0-3. Of this sum, Rs. 34-0-10 was spent on special repairs to the ruined old temple in the Núrpur Fort, and Rs. 106 for putting up notice boards on the ancient sites of the Kapál Mochán temples and Raja Karan ka Qila in the Ambála and Karnál districts, respectively. The rest was spent in annual repairs on various monuments.

Progress was made with the preparation of the list of ancient monuments in the Punjab, operations being confined to the Kángra district. The scheme contemplates the recording of a full account of the history of each monument, the legends connected with them, and notes on their architectural and artistic features and inscriptions. It is a task which will have to be spread over a number of years.

Publications.

206. The publications of the year include an account of the tile mosaics of the Lahore Fort, illustrated by seven page plates in colours and eight monochrome plates, which appeared in the Journal of Indian Art and Industry.

Muhammadan and British monuments.

207. The conservation of the Hayat Bakhsh Garden in the fort at Delhi was practically completed. The original garden was buried some 3 feet under débris, which was cleared away and the old causeways renewed. The diversion of the Delhi-Gurgaon road, which formerly ran right through the group of ruins adjoining the Qutb, is now complete, and an archæological area is being formed which will result in the safe keeping of the monuments. The conservation of the Motti-ki-Masjid near Mubarikpur has been carried out. Built in 1488 A.D. during the reign of Sikandar Shah Lodi, the mosque is a good example of that period. Some urgent repairs were carried out to the tombs of Rukn-i-Alàm and Shams-i-Tabrez at Multán. A memorial was erected to mark the site of the black mango tree near which was fought the third battle of Pánipat in 1761 A.D. The Takht-i-Akbari at Kalanaur in Gurdáspur, where Akbar was crowned Emperor of Hindustán, has been enclosed with a simple post and chain fence, and fence and a tablet in English and Urdu records one of the most important events in Mughal history. The principal work at the Fort Lahore has been the strengthening of the old wood beams carrying the ornamental lath and plaster ceiling of the Shish Mahal. It has also been decided that the Military authorities will evacuate, as soon as accommodation can be made available, a number of buildings of archæological interest in the Fort.

A number of exhibits were acquired for the Delhi Museum, and the collection of pictures promises to become a fine one.

Publications.

208. These include conservation notes on Lahore, Chiniot, Jhang, Karnál, Delhi and notes on the Shah Burj, Delhi Fort and the Diwan-i-Am, Lahore Fort.

CHAPTER IX.
MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

[See page 189 of the report for the year 1901-02. The Bishop of Lahore also exercises ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the Persian Gulf.]

60. Ecclesiastical.

209. The various ecclesiastical institutions were noticed in the report for the year 1901-02. In the current year grants-in-aid were given by the Government of India for the following purposes :—an installtion of gas-lighting in the new Presbyterian Church at Ráwalpindi, for the renewal of articles of service in St. Michael's Church at Jutogh, and for additions and repairs to a building attached to the Anglican Church at Hissar. The Local Government sanctioned additional staff for the new cemetery at Simla and gave a grant of Rs. 2,500 for the extension of the cemetery at Dagshai, and one of Rs. 200 for altering the position of the organ in St. James' Church in order to bring into view a Mutiny memorial tablet in that church. At the request of the Manager of the North-Western Railway, the Railway cemetery at Adamwahan, which had been badly damaged by the extraordinary floods of 1906, was repaired and its future maintenance undertaken from Provincial revenues.

The most noteworthy feature of the year was the institution, with the sanction of the Secretary of State for India, of a second Archdeacon for the Diocese of Lahore. At Mattins in the Cathedral at Lahore on Sunday, the 18th December 1910, the Bishop of Lahore installed the first incumbent of the post, the Revd. Ihsanullah, of the Church Missionary Society in charge of the Jhang Bar Mission, as Archdeacon of Delhi.

61. Stationery.

210. The Punjab Administration draws its supply of stationery from the Calcutta Stores. The value of stationery issued to officers in the Punjab during the year aggregated Rs. 2,47,305 as against Rs. 2,26,738 in the previous year,—cost of printing paper Rs. 1,25,391 and office stationery including padlocks Rs. 1,21,914 against Rs. 1,27,626 and Rs. 99,112, respectively, last year.

62. Punjab Government Press.

211. The following statement compares the income and expenditure with the value of work turned out during the years 1909-10 and 1910-11 :—

Income.		Expenditure.		Value of work turned out.	
1909-10.	1910-11.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1909-10.	1910-11.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
21,902	25,027	1,95,818	1,94,646	1,22,895	1,34,447

The income of the Press during the year under report was Rs. 25,027 as against Rs. 21,902 in the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,94,646 against Rs. 1,95,818 in 1909-10. The cost of work done by the Contractors for Government Printing for departments and offices during 1910-11 was Rs. 54,492 as against Rs. 67,566.

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